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(54) Title: IN VIVO GENE THERAPY WITH INTRON-FREE SEQUENCE OF INTEREST

(57) Abstract

Methods and compositions are provided for introduction of a transgene into a plurality of mammalian tissues in vivo. The method includes the step of incorporating a transfection cassette comprising a nucleotide sequence of interest into a largely non-integrating plasmid and introducing the plasmid into a mammalian host, other than by directly introducing it into a specific tissue. The transfection cassette comprises as operably joined components, a transcriptional and initiation regulatory region, a nucleic acid sequence of interest, and a transcriptional termination regulatory region, wherein said regulatory regions are functional in the cells of a mammalian host, and wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest is free of introns. Optionally, the transcriptional cassette is complexed with a cationic lipid carrier. The method finds use to modulate the phenotype of mammalian cells in the palliation or treatment of any of a variety of genetic-based disorders.

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IN VIVO GENE THERAPY WITH INTRON-FREE SEQUENCE OF INTEREST

INTRODUCTION

5 Technical Field

The present invention relates to methods and compositions for systemic introduction of exogenous genetic material into mammalian, particularly human, cells *in vivo*.

10 Background

An ever-expanding array of genes for which abnormal expression is associated with life-threatening human diseases is being cloned and identified. The ability to express such cloned genes in humans will ultimately permit the prevention and/or cure of many important human diseases, diseases which now either are treated poorly or are untreatable by currently available therapies. As an example, *in vivo* expression of cholesterol-regulating genes, genes which selectively block the replication of HIV, or of tumor-suppressing genes in human patients should dramatically improve treatment of heart disease, HIV, and cancer, respectively. However, currently available gene delivery strategies have been unable to produce either a high level of or generalized transgene expression *in vivo* in a wide variety of tissues after systemic administration to a mammalian host. This inability has precluded the development of effective gene therapy for most human diseases.

30 Approaches to gene therapy include both different goals and different means of achieving those goals. The goals generally include gene replacement, gene correction and gene augmentation. In gene replacement, a mutant

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gene sequence is specifically removed from the genome and replaced with a normal, functional gene. In gene correction, a mutant gene sequence is corrected without any additional changes in the target genome. In gene 5 augmentation, the expression of mutant genes in defective cells is modified by introducing foreign normal genetic sequences.

The means to reach the above goals used by others, have included "ex vivo" transfection of a target cell 10 followed by introduction of the transformed cells into a suitable organ in the host mammal. Ex vivo techniques include transfection of cells in vitro with either naked DNA or DNA liposome conjugates, followed by introduction into a host organ ("ex vivo" gene therapy). The criteria 15 for a suitable target organ or tissue include that the target organ or tissue is easily accessible, that it can be manipulated in vitro, that it is susceptible to genetic modification methods and ideally, it should contain either non-replicating cells or cycling stem 20 cells to perpetuate a genetic correction. Further, it should be possible to reimplant the genetically modified cells into the organism in a functional and stable form. Exemplary of a target organ which meets these criteria is 25 the mammalian bone marrow. A further criterion for ex vivo gene therapy, if for example a retroviral vector is used, is that the cells be pre-mitotic; post-mitotic cells are refractory to infection with retroviral vectors. Although this has not been reported, in some 30 instances it may be possible to transfect cells from other than the target organ or tissue using ex vivo gene therapy if the corrective gene product can be secreted and exert the desired effect on/in the target cell following circulation in blood or other body fluids.

There are several drawbacks to ex vivo therapy; 35 for example, if only differentiated, replicating cells

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are infected, the newly introduced gene function will be lost as those cells mature and die. *Ex vivo* approaches also can be used to transfect only a limited number of cells and cannot be used to transfect cells which are not 5 removed first from the body. The above methods generally involve integration of new genetic material into the cell genome and thus constitute permanent changes.

Liposomes have been used effectively, particularly to introduce drugs, radiotherapeutic agents, enzymes, 10 viruses, transcription factors and other cellular effectors into a variety of cultured cell lines and animals. The agent to be introduced is typically entrapped within the liposome, or lipid vesicle, or the agent may be bound to the outside of the vesicle. 15 Successful clinical trials examining the effectiveness of liposome-mediated drug delivery have been completed. Several strategies have been devised to increase the effectiveness of liposome-mediated drug delivery by targeting liposomes to specific tissues and specific cell 20 types. However, while the basic methodology for using liposome-mediated vectors is well developed, the technique has not been perfected for liposome-based transfection vectors for *in vivo* gene therapy.

In vivo expression of transgenes as reported by 25 others has been restricted to injection of transgenes directly into a specific tissue, such as direct intratracheal, intramuscular or intraarterial injection of naked DNA or of DNA-cationic liposome complexes, or to *ex vivo* transfection of host cells, with subsequent 30 reinfusion. The expression is low and generally has been limited to one tissue, typically the tissue that was injected (for example muscle); liver or lung where iv injection has been used; or lung where intratracheal injection has been used, and less than 1% of all cells 35 within these tissues were transfected. In some cases,

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transfection of cells has been obtained in tissues afferent to the site of intravenous administration.

Currently available gene delivery strategies consistently have failed to produce a high level and/or 5 generalized transgene expression *in vivo*. It therefore would be of interest to develop compositions and delivery methods for *in vivo* gene therapy that provide for a high level of transcription of the transgene and/or expression in a variety of cell and tissue types for the *in vivo* 10 treatment, prevention, or palliation of numerous human diseases. Also of interest, is the use of gene modulation as an alternate means of gene therapy. In gene modulation, expression of an already expressed gene is increased by introducing exogenous normal genetic 15 sequences and decreased by introducing antisense genes or gene fragments, or by introducing vectors that can produce ribozymes that can cleave specific mRNAs. Gene modulation can also be achieved by the introduction of exogenous normal genetic sequences that code for proteins 20 that modulate the extent of gene expression, or affect the processing, assembly or secretion of gene products.

Relevant Literature

A large number of publications relate to *in vivo* and *ex vivo* transfection of mammals. In some cases, only 25 transcription of a transgene has been achieved, in others, the data appear to show only a low level of expression and/or expression in a limited number of tissues or cell types. The following are examples of the publications in this area.

30 A variety of approaches for introducing functional new genetic material into cells, both *in vitro* and *in vivo* have been attempted (Friedmann, (1989) *Science*, 244:1275-1281). These approaches include integration of the gene to be expressed into modified retroviruses

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(Friedmann, (1989) *supra*; Rosenberg, (1991) *Cancer Research*, 51(18), suppl.: 5074S-5079S); integration into non-retrovirus vectors (Rosenfeld, et al., (1992) *Cell*, 68:143-155; Rosenfeld, et al., (1991) *Science*, 252:431-434); or delivery of a transgene linked to a heterologous promoter-enhancer element via liposomes (Friedmann, (1989), *supra*; Brigham, et al., (1989) *Am. J. Med. Sci.*, 298:278-281; Nabel, et al., (1990) *Science*, 249:1285-1288; Hazinski, et al., (1991) *Am. J. Resp. Cell Molec. Biol.*, 4:206-209; and Wang and Huang, (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA)*, 84:7851-7855); coupled to ligand-specific, cation-based transport systems (Wu and Wu, (1988) *J. Biol. Chem.*, 263:14621-14624) or the use of naked DNA expression vectors (Nabel et al., (1990), *supra*); Wolff et al., (1990) *Science*, 247:1465-1468). Direct injection of transgenes into tissue produces only localized expression (Rosenfeld, (1992) *supra*); Rosenfeld et al., (1991) *supra*; Brigham et al., (1989) *supra*; Nabel, (1990) *supra*; and Hazinski et al., (1991) *supra*). The Brigham et al. group (*Am. J. Med. Sci.*, (1989) 298:278-281 and *Clinical Research*, (1991) 39 (abstract)) have reported *in vivo* transfection only of lungs of mice following either intravenous or intratracheal administration of a DNA liposome complex. An example of a review article of human gene therapy procedures is: Anderson, (1992) *Science* 256:808-813.

PCT/US90/01515 (Felgner et al.) is directed to methods for delivering a gene coding for a pharmaceutical or immunogenic polypeptide to the interior of a cell of a vertebrate *in vivo*. Expression of the transgenes is limited to the tissue of injection. PCT/US90/05993 (Brigham) is directed to a method for obtaining expression of a transgene in mammalian lung cells following either iv or intratracheal injection of an expression construct. PCT 89/02469 and PCT 90/06997 are

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directed to *ex vivo* gene therapy, which is limited to expressing a transgene in cells that can be taken out of the body such as lymphocytes. PCT 89/12109 is likewise directed to *ex vivo* gene therapy. PCT 90/12878 is 5 directed to an enhancer which provides a high level of expression both in transformed cell lines and in transgenic mice using *ex vivo* transfection. PCT/US92/08806 is directed to particle-mediated transformation of mammalian unattached cells. EP 10 application 91301819.8 is directed to the use of recombinant techniques to produce cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR).

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Methods and compositions are provided for 15 introduction of a transgene into a plurality of mammalian tissues *in vivo*. The method includes the step of incorporating a transfection cassette comprising a nucleotide sequence of interest into a largely non-integrating plasmid and introducing the plasmid into a 20 mammalian host, other than by directly introducing it into a specific tissue. The transfection cassette comprises as operably joined components, a transcriptional and initiation regulatory region, a nucleic acid sequence of interest, and a transcriptional 25 termination regulatory region, wherein said regulatory regions are functional in the cells of a mammalian host, and wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest is free of introns. Optionally, the transcriptional cassette is complexed with a cationic lipid carrier. The 30 method finds use to modulate the phenotype of mammalian cells.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows photomicrographs of sections of mouse lung (A) from a mouse injected with a transfection cassette, or (B) a control mouse. The photomicrograph in 5 (A) shows a section of mouse lung 48 hours following iv injection of pZN27:DDAB:Cholesterol expression vector-cationic lipid carrier complexes. The plasmid contained sequences for the expression of CAT (chloramphenicol acyl transferase). The lipid carrier composition was 1 to 1 10 molar DDAB:Cholesterol. The carrier: plasmid ratio was 5 nmoles cationic lipid to 1 μ g DNA. A dose of 100 μ g DNA was injected per mouse. This field shows alveoli and alveolar lining cells, the majority (50-70%) of which stain red positively for the presence of CAT protein when 15 probed with anti-CAT antibody and visualized using alkaline phosphatase (indicated by arrows). The treated animals' lungs stain uniformly with diffuse involvement of alveolar and vascular endothelial cells. Airway epithelial staining is also seen indicating airway cells 20 are also transfected. The CAT protein normally is not present in mammalian cells and therefore the presence of CAT protein in these cells indicates that they have been transfected *in vivo*. The photomicrograph in (B) shows a section of mouse lung from a control animal treated with 25 iv-injected lipid carrier only, and probed with anti-CAT antibody. Cells do not show significant staining, although low-level background staining is detectable in some alveolar macrophages (indicated by arrows), which possess endogenous alkaline phosphatase activity.

30 Figure 2A shows a phase contrast micrograph of mouse T lymphocytes isolated 48 hours after intraperitoneal (ip) injection of DNA-cationic lipid carrier complexes. Lipid carriers were DDAB:DOPE, 1 to 1 molar. DNA-cationic lipid carrier complexes were 1 mg 35 pcIS-CAT with 1 μ mole cationic lipid. 1 mg DNA was

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injected ip. Cells were incubated with anti CAT mouse monoclonal antibody, followed by Texas red-conjugated goat anti mouse IgG. Figure 2B shows a fluorescence micrograph of the same field showing that essentially all 5 T lymphocytes present removed from the treated animal were stained red by immunofluorescence demonstrating expression of the transfected CAT gene following ip injection of DNA/cationic lipid carrier complexes. Figure 2C shows a phase contrast micrograph of T 10 lymphocytes isolated from an uninjected control mouse. Figure 2D shows a fluorescence micrograph of the same field, showing that there is no CAT gene expression in these lymphocytes from control animals.

Figure 3A shows hematopoietic bone marrow-derived 15 cells from a mouse treated with a DNA:lipid carrier complex DDAB:Cholesterol:pZN51 intravenously 48 hours earlier. Cells were stained for CAT protein as in Figure 1. The photomicrograph shows that approximately 70 percent of the bone marrow-derived cells, including 20 primitive or blast cells are stained red (blast cell indicated by arrow) and are transfected *in vivo*. Lipid carriers were 1:1 DDAB:Cholesterol. DNA:cationic lipid ratio was 1 μ g of DNA to 5 nmoles cationic lipid. 100 μ g of DNA was injected iv into each mouse. Figure 3B shows 25 isolated bone marrow cells from an untreated control mouse. The photomicrograph shows no red staining indicating no CAT gene expression in untreated animals.

Figure 4 shows transfection of human T lymphocytes (CD4 $^{+}$) by CAT expression plasmid-DNA complexes in 30 culture. The lipid carrier composition was 1:1 molar ratio DDAB:DOPE small uni-lamellar vesicles (SUV). 25 μ g of pZN27 complexed with 50 nmoles cationic lipid was added to 10 million cells in culture. Cells were 35 incubated with anti CAT mouse monoclonal antibody, followed by Texas red-conjugated goat anti mouse IgG. In

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Figure 4A is shown a phase contrast micrograph of freshly isolated human CD4⁺ T lymphocytes 48 hours after transfection. Figure 4B shows a fluorescence micrograph of the same field which demonstrates that essentially 5 100% of the T lymphocytes stain positively for CAT protein, i.e., they have been transfected.

Figure 5 shows construction of plasmid pZN20.

Figure 6 shows a restriction map of the immediate early enhancer and promoter region of HCMV (Towne) in 10 Figure 6A and HCMV(AD169) in Figure 6C. Figure 6B shows a sequence comparison of the two HCMV promoters. The position of the NcoI site is indicated by an asterisk.

Figure 7 shows electron micrographs which demonstrates that cationic lipid carrier: DNA complexes 15 (DOTMA:DOPE:pRSV-CAT) are internalized by CV-1 (African Green Monkey Kidney) cells via classical receptor-mediated endocytosis following binding to cell surface receptors. For construction of pRSVCAT see Gorman et al., (1982) Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA 79:6777-6781.

20 Lipid carriers were 1:1 DOTMA:DOPE. 20 μ g DNA were complexed with 20 nmoles cationic lipid, and added to 2 x 10^6 cells. The arrows in panel (a) show particles binding to clathrin-coated pits; panel (b), the particles that have been ingested and are present in endosomes.

25 Figure 8 shows photomicrographs of a histochemical analysis of lungs from B-16 melanoma-bearing animals which received an intravenous injection of CMV-CAT cationic lipid carrier:DNA complexes. Lipid carriers were DOTAP:Cholesterol, 1 to 1 molar ratio. Cationic 30 lipid: DNA ratio was 6 nanomoles: 1 μ g DNA. The plasmid used was pZN20 (see Figure 5). 100 μ g DNA was injected per mouse. The immunohistochemical analysis for CAT protein revealed intense red staining of many focal parenchymal tumors (Figure 8A indicated by arrows) and 35 tumor emboli within blood vessels (Figure 8B indicated by

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arrows), indicating that large numbers of B16 melanoma tumor cells in the lung, as well as blood-borne metastases, are transfected after iv injection. Figure 8C shows that in tissue from B16 melanoma-bearing mice 5 which did not receive an injection of DNA-lipid carrier complexes, no CAT protein is present in the surrounding normal lung or in any of the lung tumor cells.

Figure 9 shows the construction of plasmid pZN27, encoding CAT.

10 Figure 10A and Figure 10B show the construction of plasmid pZN46, encoding human IL-2.

Figure 11 shows the construction of plasmid pZN32, encoding human CFTR.

15 Figure 12 shows photomicrographs of immunohistochemically stained (for CFTR protein) frozen sections of lung tissue from mice treated by intravenous administration of either pZN32:cationic lipid carrier complexes or lipid carrier alone (control mice). Figures 12A, 12C, and 12E are lung sections from mice treated 20 with DNA lipid carrier complexes at 50X, 100X, and 250X magnification, respectively. Figures 12B and 12D are lung sections from control mice at 50X and 100X magnification show that there is no detectable CFTR expression in lungs of control mice. Lipid carriers were 25 1 to 1 molar DDAB:Cholesterol (SUV). Lipid carrier-DNA complexes were 5 nanomoles cationic lipid to 1 μ g DNA. 100 μ g DNA was injected per mouse. Animals were sacrificed 24 hrs after injection. The figures show that >70% of both airways and airway lining cells stain 30 intensely red, indicating that they are expressing the CFTR gene.

Figure 13 shows the construction of plasmid pZN51, encoding CAT.

Figure 14 shows the construction of plasmids 35 pZN60, pZN61, pZN62 and pZN63, all encoding CAT. Figures

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14A and B show the construction of intermediate plasmids pZN52, pZN54, pZN56 and pZN58. Figure 14C shows the construction of the final plasmids, pZN60 through pZN63, from the intermediates.

5 Figure 15 shows an autoradiograph of the thin layer chromatograph of the a CAT assay for six different plasmids injected intravenously in mice. Lanes 1-12 show the CAT activity in lung tissue; Lanes 13-24 show the CAT activity in liver tissue. Lanes 1, 2, 13, 14-pZN51; 10 lanes 3, 4, 15, 16-pZN60; lanes 5, 6, 17, 18-pZN61; lanes 7, 8, 19, 20-pZN62; lanes 9, 10, 21, 22-pZN63; lanes 11, 12, 23, 24-pZN27. Lipid carriers were DDAB:Cholesterol (1:1). Lipid carriers-DNA complexes were 5 nmoles cationic lipid to 1 μ g DNA. 100 μ g DNA was injected per 15 mouse. Animals were sacrificed after 48 hrs. Each lane represents a single mouse. Chromatograph runs from bottom to top of Figure as shown. As shown by the brackets in Figure 15, unreacted 14 C chloramphenicol only migrates a short distance from the origin of the TLC 20 plate. The 14 C Acetylated chloramphenicol species migrate which result from CAT enzymatic activity further up the plate as shown by the brackets.

Figure 16 (A-E) shows photomicrographs of frozen lung section that have been immunohistochemically stained 25 for CAT protein. Mice were injected iv by tail vein with pZN27 (16A) which shows positive red staining for CAT is endothelial, alveolar and airway cells within the lung. In contrast, liposome complexes of the CAT gene linked to the natural CFTR promoter (pBE3.8CAT) showed CAT 30 expression primarily in airway epithelial cells (16B). A lung section from an uninjected control animal did not show red staining, indicating no CAT expression in untransfected cells (16C). Figure 16D shows a high magnification photomicrograph of alveoli from a pZN27 35 treated mouse, and shows a high level of positive red

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staining for CAT gene product in both alveolar and epithelial cells. Figure 16E shows a high magnification photomicrograph of alveoli from a pBE3.8CAT injected mouse, and shows no significant CAT gene expression in 5 either alveolar or endothelial cells. One hundred μ g of plasmid was injected iv complexed with DDAB:Cholesterol as SUVs. Animals were sacrificed after 24 hrs.

Figure 16(F-K) shows autoradiographs of the thin layer chromatographs of CAT activity in heart (16F), 10 lymph nodes (16G) spleen (16H), kidney (16I), lung (16J), and liver (16K) in tissue from uninjected mice (lanes 1- 3), mice injected IV with pBE3.8CAT (Chou, et al., (1991) *J. Biol. Chem.*, 266:24471-24476 (lanes 4-6), or mice injected with pCIS-CAT (lanes 7-9). Lipid carriers were 15 DDAB:Cholesterol, 1:1 SUV (1 μ g DNA to 5 nmoles cationic lipid; 100 μ g injected per mouse.

Figure 17 shows the construction of plasmid pZN84, encoding murine GM-CSF.

Figure 18 shows the construction of pZN102, 20 encoding human CFTR.

Figure 19A shows an autoradiograph of a TLC plate showing CAT activity in animals after injection of pZN27 without any lipid carrier. One milligram was injected iv twice over a 4-hour period. Mice were sacrificed 24 hrs. 25 later. The various tissues examined are indicated under each lane.

Figure 19B shows an autoradiograph of a TLC plate showing CAT activity in an animal injected with pZN27 complexed with a lipid carrier. Lipid carrier was 30 DDAB:Cholesterol 1 to 1 molar, 5 μ g of plasmid complexed to 1 n mole of lipid. 100 μ g was injected iv, and animals were sacrificed 24 hrs later. The various tissues examined are indicated under each lane.

Figure 20 shows an autoradiograph of a TLC plate 35 of injection into the right (R) ventricle of pCIS-CAT

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complexed to DOTMA:DOPE (1:1) lipid carriers in the indicated ratios of plasmid:lipid. Animals were sacrificed 48 hrs. after the stereotactic injection of 2.5 μ g. Each pair of lanes represents a single animal.

5 The left (L) ventricle was not injected and therefore transfection of the left ventricles demonstrates that the entire brain is being transfected.

Figure 21 shows human lung cancer cell line transfections. An autoradiograph of a TLC plate shows 10 CAT activity in extracts from three different human lung cancer cell lines transfected using various cationic liposomes. The lung cancer cell lines NCI-H69, NCI-H82, and NCI-H520 were plated at 2×10^6 cells/plate and transfected in suspension. Individual plates of cells 15 were transfected with 5 μ g of RSV-CAT (RC) alone or 5 μ g of RSV-CAT complexed to a total of 10 or 20 nmole of pure DOTMA (D), pure L-PE (L), or L-PE/CEBA (L/CA) liposomes. The cells were harvested 48 h after transfection and assayed for CAT activity.

20 Figure 22 shows serum murine GM-CSF levels in a single goat (A) injected iv with 1 mg of GM-CSF plasmid (pZN84) complexed with DDAB:Cholesterol liposome (1 μ g plasmid to 1 nmole lipid). Serum samples were collected at 0, 12, 24, 48, 72, 168, and 840 hrs. after injection.

25 Murine GM-CSF levels were measured by ELISA using a commercial kit (Endogen). Figure 23 show the serum murine GM-CSF levels in two additional goats (B and C) injected with pZN84 as per goat A.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIFIC EMBODIMENTS

30 In accordance with the subject invention, nucleic acid constructs together with methods of preparation and use are provided which provide for *in vivo* change of and/or modulation of phenotype of cells in a plurality of tissues of a mammalian host, following introduction of

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the constructs into the host at a dose sufficient to cause transfection of tissues and cells contacted by the nucleic acid. The components of the transfection vector generally will include as operably linked components in 5 the direction of transcription, a transcriptional initiation region, a DNA sequence of interest and a transcriptional termination region, wherein the transcriptional regulatory regions are functional in the host mammal's cells that are targeted for transfection. 10 Optionally, an intron may be included in the construct, preferably 5' to the coding sequence. Generally, the construct does not become integrated into the host cell genome and is introduced into the host as part of a non-integrating plasmid where it is maintained primarily in 15 an extrachromosomal or episomal form. The constructs can be either naked nucleic acid or nucleic acid associated with a lipid carrier. By a sufficient dose is meant that which will result in a desired effect, for example prevention, palliation, and/or cure of an animal or human 20 disease, or modulation of endogenous levels of an agent of interest ("in vivo" gene therapy). The modulation may be generalized, i.e. obtained in a multiplicity of cell types or tissues, or the modulation may be selective, for example inducible and/or in only selected cell or tissue 25 types.

Transfection of multiple tissues and cells other than those solely at or afferent to the site of introduction of the nucleic acid constructs into the host is obtained and expression is at a high level and in a 30 large number of cells and cell types. The tissues which can be transformed include the lungs, heart, liver, bone marrow, spleen, lymph nodes, kidneys, thymus, skeletal muscle, ovary, uterus, stomach, small intestine, colon, pancreas, and brain in normal animals, as well as 35 metastatic tumors and intravascular tumor emboli in

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tumor-bearing mammals. Particular cells which are transfected include macrophages, alveolar type I and type II cells, hepatocytes, airway epithelial cells, vascular endothelial cells, cardiac myocytes, myeloblasts, 5 erythroblasts, B-lymphocytes and T-lymphocytes. The route of administration typically is into a circulating bodily fluid such as blood or cerebrospinal fluid, but other routes of administration also can be used. The constructs can be either naked nucleic acid or nucleic 10 acid associated with a lipid carrier. Optionally, the lipid carrier molecule and/or construct may provide for targeting and/or expression in a particular cell type or types.

The nucleic acid constructs can be prepared from 15 nucleic acid sequences which are synthetic, naturally derived or a combination thereof. The sequences can be obtained from a donor host homologous with an intended recipient host, or depending upon the nature of the nucleic acid sequence, it may be desirable to synthesize 20 the sequence with host preferred codons. The host preferred codons may be determined from the codons of highest frequency in the proteins expressed in the largest amount in the particular host of interest. Where cloning is done in a bacterial host system, it may be 25 beneficial to change codon choice to promote stability in the bacterial host system. Where the intended use is to treat disease resulting from an infectious organism, an appropriate source of sequence may be viral nucleic acid, either RNA or DNA.

30 Genes are high molecular weight, polyanionic molecules, for which carrier-mediated delivery is usually but not always required for DNA transfection of cells either in culture or in vivo. Cationic lipid carriers such as liposomes can be used to deliver transcriptional 35 regulatory proteins. Further, liposomes themselves

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(unlike viral vectors) appear to be non-immunogenic in vivo. Liposome formulations, including those containing a cationic lipid, have been shown to be safe and well tolerated in human patients (Treat et al., 5 (1990) *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.* 82:1706-1710). Although a wide variety of transfection techniques can produce high level expression of transgenes in cultured cells, only a few such methods, including those using liposomes, are compatible with in vivo gene delivery. Previous attempts 10 at using either cationic liposomes or naked DNA to obtain in vivo transfection have resulted in transfection of a single tissue and/or transfection only of the tissue of introduction of exogenous DNA. This pattern of transfection suggests that rather than the DNA and/or 15 liposomes being taken up by normal cellular mechanisms, cells in the tissue of introduction are damaged by the introduction method and are then able to take up some of the exogenous DNA which has been introduced.

Applicants surprisingly discovered changes which 20 provide for both transfection of a wide variety of tissues and cell types and a high-level of transgene expression after systemic administration into a mammalian host. These changes include the use of DNA:cationic lipid carrier complexes, wherein the ratio of DNA to 25 cationic lipid of the lipid carrier can significantly affect obtention of in vivo expression; use of a higher dose of complexes than has been used previously; use of an appropriate promoter element, for example one which is both strong and constitutively active, such as the HCMV- 30 IE1 element where it is desired to provide enhanced expression in a wide variety of cell types in vivo; and placement of greater than 100 bp of an intron 5' to the coding region of the transgene or removal of the intron altogether to facilitate production of a desired gene 35 product. Additionally, it has surprisingly been

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discovered that a number of tissues, including the lung, liver, spleen, kidney, lymph nodes and heart can be transformed following direct administration of high doses of naked DNA into a circulating bodily fluid, such as 5 blood or cerebral spinal fluid. Alternatively, selective expression can be obtained in specific cell and tissue types and at a desired time (i.e. expression is inducible) by alterations in the components, particularly promoters and/or enhancers of the constructs used, or by 10 the use of targeting moieties on the liposomes.

Most gene therapy strategies have relied on transgene insertion into retroviral or DNA virus vectors. Potential disadvantages of retroviruses, as compared to the use of naked DNA or the use of cationic lipid 15 carriers, include the limited ability of retroviruses to mediate *in vivo* (as opposed to *ex vivo*) transgene expression; the inability of retrovirus vectors to transfect non-dividing cells; possible recombination events in replication-defective retrovirus vectors, 20 resulting in infectious retroviruses; possible activation of oncogenes or inhibition of tumor suppressor genes due to the random insertion of the transgene into host cell genomic DNA; size limitations: less than 15 kb of DNA typically can be packaged in a retrovirus vector; and 25 potential immunogenicity, leading to a host immune response against the vector. In addition, all *ex vivo* approaches require that the cells to be transfected be removed from the body and that they be maintained in culture for a period of time. While in culture, the 30 cells may undergo deleterious or potentially dangerous phenotypic and/or genotypic changes. Adenoviral and other DNA viral vectors share several of the above potential limitations. Thus, the subject invention which does not use adenoviral or other DNA viral vectors has 35 several advantages over existing techniques.

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Additionally, the subject invention offers ease of administration and results not achievable by other means.

The constructs for use in the invention include several forms, depending upon the intended use of the 5 construct. Thus, the constructs include vectors, transcriptional cassettes, expression cassettes and plasmids. The transcriptional and translational initiation region (also sometimes referred to as a "promoter,"), preferably comprises a transcriptional 10 initiation regulatory region and a translational initiation regulatory region of untranslated 5' sequences, "ribosome binding sites," responsible for binding mRNA to ribosomes and for translational initiation. It is preferred that all of the 15 transcriptional and translational functional elements of the initiation control region are derived from or obtainable from the same gene. In some embodiments, the promoter will be modified by the addition of sequences, such as enhancers, or deletions of nonessential and/or 20 undesired sequences. By "obtainable" is intended a promoter having a DNA sequence sufficiently similar to that of a native promoter to provide for the desired specificity of transcription of a DNA sequence of interest. It includes natural and synthetic sequences as 25 well as sequences which may be a combination of synthetic and natural sequences.

For the transcriptional initiation region, or promoter element, any region may be used with the proviso that it provides the desired level of transcription of 30 the DNA sequence of interest. The transcriptional initiation region may be native to or homologous to the host cell, and/or to the DNA sequence to be transcribed, or nonindigenous to the host cell or foreign or heterologous to the DNA sequence to be transcribed. By 35 nonindigenous to the host cell is intended that the

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transcriptional initiation region is not normally found in the host into which the construct comprising the transcriptional initiation region is to be inserted. By foreign to the DNA sequence is intended a transcriptional 5 initiation region that is not normally associated with the DNA sequence of interest. Efficient promoter elements for transcription initiation include the SV40 (simian virus 40) early promoter, the RSV (Rous sarcoma virus) promoter, the Adenovirus major late promoter, and 10 the human CMV (cytomegalovirus) immediate early 1 promoter.

Inducible promoters also find use with the subject invention where it is desired to control the timing of transcription or the tissue or cell type in which the 15 nucleic acid of interest is transcribed. Examples of inducible promoters include those obtainable from a β -interferon gene, a heat shock gene, a metallothionein gene or those obtainable from steroid hormone-responsive genes, including insect genes such as that encoding the 20 ecdysone receptor. Such inducible promoters can be used to regulate transcription of the transgene by the use of external stimuli such as interferon or glucocorticoids. Since the arrangement of eukaryotic promoter elements is highly flexible, combinations of constitutive and 25 inducible elements also can be used. Tandem arrays of two or more inducible promoter elements may increase the level of induction above baseline levels of transcription which can be achieved when compared to the level of induction above baseline which can be achieved with a 30 single inducible element.

Generally, the transcriptional regulatory sequence comprises DNA up to about 1.5 kb 5' of the transcriptional start of a gene, but can be significantly smaller. As necessary, this regulatory sequence may be 35 modified at the position corresponding to the first codon

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of the desired protein by site-directed mutagenesis (Kunkel, (1985) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA)*, 82:488-492) or by introduction of a convenient linker oligonucleotide by ligation, if a suitable restriction site is found near 5 the N-terminal codon. In the ideal embodiment, a coding sequence with a compatible restriction site may be ligated at the position corresponding to codon #1 of the gene. This substitution may be inserted in such a way that it completely replaces the native coding sequence so 10 that the substituted sequence is flanked at its 3' end by the gene terminator and polyadenylation signal.

Transcriptional enhancer elements optionally may be included in the transcription or expression cassette. By "transcriptional enhancer elements" is intended DNA 15 sequences which are primary regulators of transcriptional activity and which can act to increase transcription from a promoter element, and generally do not have to be in the 5' orientation with respect to the promoter in order to enhance transcriptional activity. The combination of 20 promoter and enhancer element(s) used in a particular cassette can be selected by one skilled in the art to maximize specific effects. Different enhancer elements can be used to produce a desired level of transgene transcription and/or expression in a wide variety of 25 tissue and cell types. For example, the human CMV immediate early promoter-enhancer element can be used to produce high level transgene transcription and expression in many different tissues *in vivo*.

Examples of other enhancer elements which confer a 30 high level of transcription on linked genes in a number of different cell types from many species include enhancers from SV40 and RSV-LTR. The SV40 and RSV-LTR are essentially constitutive. They can be combined with other enhancers which have specific effects, or the 35 specific enhancers may be used alone. Thus, where

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specific control of transcription is desired, efficient enhancer elements that are active only in a tissue-, developmental-, or cell-specific fashion include immunoglobulin, interleukin-2 (IL-2) and β -globin 5 enhancers are of interest. Tissue-, developmental-, or cell-specific enhancers can be used to obtain transgene transcription and/or expression in particular cell types, such as β -lymphocytes and T-lymphocytes, as well as myeloid, or erythroid progenitor cells. Alternatively, a 10 tissue-specific promoter such as that derived from the human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene can be fused to a very active, heterologous enhancer element, such as the SV40 enhancer, in order to confer both a high level of transcription and tissue- 15 specific transgene transcription. In addition, the use of tissue-specific promoters, such as LCK, allow targeting of transgene transcription to T lymphocytes. Tissue specific transcription of the transgene can be important, particularly in cases where the results of 20 transcription of the transgene in tissues other than the target tissue would be deleterious.

Tandem repeats of two or more enhancer elements or combinations of enhancer elements can significantly increase transgene expression when compared to the use of 25 a single copy of an enhancer element; hence enhancer elements find use in the cassettes. The use of two different enhancer elements, which can be either from the same or from different sources flanking or within a single promoter can in some cases produce transgene 30 expression in each tissue in which each individual enhancer acting alone would have an effect, thereby increasing the number of tissues in which transcription is obtained. In other cases, the presence of two different enhancer elements results in silencing of the 35 enhancer effects. Evaluation of particular combinations

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of enhancer elements for a particular desired effect or tissue of expression is within the level of skill in the art.

Although generally it is not necessary to include 5 an intron in the transcription and/or expression cassette, an intron optionally can be included which comprises a 5' splice site (donor site) and a 3' splice site (acceptor site) separated by a sufficient intervening sequence to produce high level extended 10 *in vivo* transcription and/or expression of a transgene. Generally, an intervening sequence of about 100bp produces the desired expression pattern and/or level, but the size of the sequence can be varied as needed to achieve a desired result. The optional intron placed 5' 15 to the coding sequence results in high level extended *in vivo* expression of a transgene but generally is not necessary to obtain expression. Optimally, the 5' intron specifically lacks cryptic splice sites which result in aberrantly spliced mRNA sequences.

20 If used, the intron splice donor and splice acceptor sites, arranged from 5' to 3' respectively, are placed between the transcription initiation site and the translational start codon. Alternatively, the intervening sequence can be placed 3' to the 25 translational stop codon and the transcriptional terminator or inside the coding region. The intron can be a hybrid intron with an intervening sequence or an intron taken from a genomic coding sequence. An intron 3' to the coding region, particularly one of less than 30 100 bp, or any intron which contains cryptic splice sites can under certain condition substantially reduce the level of transgene expression produced *in vivo*. However, unexpectedly, a high level of *in vivo* expression of a transgene can be achieved using a vector that lacks an

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intron. Such vectors therefore are of particular interest for *in vivo* transfection.

Downstream from and under control of the transcriptional and/or translational initiation 5 regulatory regions is a multiple cloning site for insertion of a nucleic acid sequence of interest which will provide for one or more alterations of host phenotype, for example to dramatically improve the treatment of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), 10 cystic fibrosis, cancer, heart disease, autoimmune diseases and a variety of life threatening infections. Conveniently, the multiple cloning site can be employed for a variety of nucleic acid sequences in an efficient manner. The nucleic acid sequence inserted in the 15 cloning site can encode a ribozyme sequence or encode a polypeptide, for example, a protein having enzymatic activity, with the proviso that if the coding sequence encodes a polypeptide, it should lack cryptic splice sites which can block production of appropriate mRNA 20 molecules and/or produce aberrantly spliced or abnormal mRNA molecules. The polypeptide can be one which is active intracellularly, a transmembrane protein, or it may be a secreted protein. It also can be a mutant protein, for example, which is normally secreted, but 25 which has been altered to act intracellularly. The nucleic acid sequence can be DNA; it also can be a sequence complementary to a genomic sequence (an "antisense sequence"), where the genomic sequence may be one or more of an open reading frame, an intron, a non- 30 coding leader sequence, or any other sequence where the complementary sequence will inhibit transcription, or messenger RNA processing, for example splicing, or translation.

For the treatment of AIDS, anti-TAT, REV, TAR or 35 other critical anti-HIV sequences may be used,

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particularly for expression of the appropriate coding sequences in T lymphocytes, macrophages and monocytes which can be achieved following iv administration of the appropriate coding sequences. Thus, DNA sequences which 5 code for mRNA (an antisense or ribozyme sequence such as one to HIV-REV or a BCR-ABL sequence) or code for proteins such as transdominant negative mutants which specifically prevent the integration of HIV genes into the host cell genomic DNA, replication of HIV sequences, 10 translation of HIV proteins, processing of HIV mRNA, or virus packaging in human cells can be used.

Expression of wild-type conductance regulator (CFTR) gene in the lungs of cystic fibrosis patients can be used in the treatment of cystic fibrosis (see Collins, 15 (1992) *Science* 256:774-783). CFTR cDNA can be obtained from Dr. Collins at University of Michigan or Dr. Tsui at Toronto Sick Children's Hospital.

Expression of wild-type p53 in tumors of cancer patients with absent or aberrant expression of this gene 20 can be used as a means of treating these patients. p53 is obtainable from Dr. Vogelstein at John Hopkins Univ. Other methods of cancer treatment include transcription of antisense sequences to over-expressed, transforming oncogenes, such as myc or ras in tumors.

25 Viral pneumonias remain a major cause of death and disability of the very young and in the aged population. Proteins such as granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), which stimulates production of white blood cells from the bone marrow of 30 immunocompromised patients can be useful in controlling the course of viral infections. In particular, GM-CSF delivered via gene transfer would serve with prophylactic modalities for those at risk for occurrence of viral pneumonia, as well as in therapeutic modalities for

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treatment of the infection. GM-CSF also has significant anti-tumor activity.

Other examples of nucleic acid sequences of interest, include those encoding the LDL (low density lipoprotein) receptor, which specifically lowers serum cholesterol, and which can reduce the risk of heart attack in individuals with elevated serum cholesterol levels; sequences such as an antisense IL-1 receptor sequence to down-regulate the IL-1 receptor as a treatment of conditions involving inflammation, including sepsis, rheumatoid arthritis and asthma; downregulation of the gene coding for apo(a), circulating levels of which are correlated with the risk of coronary artery disease (CAD); and genes which block activity of activated T cell clones which attack myelin in multiple sclerosis or other targets in autoimmune diseases. A T-cell lymphocyte clone activated to recognize and attack myelin can be targeted by using an antisense sequence, ribozyme sequence or transgene coding for a transdominant negative mutant which specifically blocks surface expression on the T-cell of T-cell receptor components which mediate recognition and/or attack of myelin-sheathed cells. Other beneficial therapeutic nucleic acid sequences which can be expressed in appropriate cells *in vivo* using this invention include nucleic acid sequences encoding molecules which have superoxide dismutase activity or catalase activity to protect the lung from oxidant injury; endothelial prostaglandin synthase to produce prostacyclin and prostaglandin E2; and antiprotease alpha-1 antitrypsin, and erythropoietin.

The termination region which is employed primarily will be one of convenience, since termination regions appear to be relatively interchangeable. The termination region may be native to the intended nucleic acid sequence of interest, or may be derived from another

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source. Convenient termination regions are available and include the 3' end of a gene terminator and polyadenylation signal from the same gene from which the 5' regulatory region is obtained. Alternatively, a 5 terminator and polyadenylation signal from a different gene or genes may be employed with similar results. Specific sequences which regulate post-transcriptional mRNA stability may optionally be included. For example, certain polyA sequences (Volloch and Housman, (1981) *Cell* 23:509-514) and β -globin mRNA elements can increase mRNA stability, whereas certain AU-rich sequences in mRNA can decrease mRNA stability (Shyu et al., (1989) *Genes and Devel.* 3:60-72). In addition, AU regions in 3' non-coding regions may be used to destabilize mRNA if a short 15 half-life mRNA is desirable for a particular application.

The construct may additionally include sequences for selection, such as a neomycin resistance gene or a dihydrofolate reductase gene and/or signal sequences to generate recombinant proteins that are targeted to 20 different cellular compartments or secreted when the wild type sequence is not. Any of a variety of signal sequences may be used which are well-known to those skilled in the art. These signal sequences may allow generation of new vaccine strategies or produce soluble 25 antagonists directed against specific cell surface receptors such as transformed oncogenes. The sequences for selection may be on a separate plasmid and cotransfected with the plasmid carrying the therapeutic nucleic acid. Where a carrier is used, the selection 30 plasmid may be complexed to a different carrier or to the same carrier as the therapeutic plasmid.

In some cases, it may be desirable to use constructs that produce long term transgene effects in vivo, either by integration of the transgene into host 35 cell genomic DNA at high levels or by persistence of the

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transgene in the nucleus of cells *in vivo* in stable, episomal form. When desired, integration of the transgene into genomic DNA of host cells *in vivo* may be facilitated by administering the transgene in a 5 linearized form (either the coding region alone, or the coding region together with 5' and 3' regulatory sequences, but without any plasmid sequences present). It may be possible to further increase the incidence of 10 transgene integration into genomic DNA by incorporating a purified retroviral enzyme, such as the HIV-1 integrase enzyme, into the lipid carrier-DNA complex. Appropriate flanking sequences are placed at the 5' and 3' ends of 15 the transgene DNA. These flanking sequences have been shown to mediate integration of the HIV-1 DNA into host cell genomic DNA in the presence of HIV-1 integrase. Alternatively, duration of transgene expression *in vivo* can be prolonged by the use of constructs that contain 20 non-transforming sequences of a virus such as Epstein-Barr virus, and sequences such as oriP and EBNA-1, which appear to be sufficient to allow heterologous DNA to be replicated as a plasmid in mammalian cells (Burhans, et al., (1986) *Cell* 62:955-965).

The recombinant coding-sequence flanked at its 5' end by the promoter and regulatory sequences and at its 25 3' end by a terminator and regulatory sequences may be introduced into a suitable cloning plasmid (e.g., pUC18, pSP72) for use in direct DNA uptake in host cells following introduction into the host. It is a theory of 30 the invention that the naked nucleic acid when introduced into the host is protected from degradation by nucleases by associating with lipid carriers in the blood, such as chylomicrons. Thus, more effective transfection may be achieved when lipid in the blood is at an elevated level after ingestion of food.

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The nucleic acid construct also may be complexed with a carrier such as a lipid carrier, particularly a cationic lipid carriers to form a complex. By a complex is intended an association between a nucleic acid construct such as a plasmid containing an expression cassette or a transcriptional cassette and a lipid mixture. The physical form of the complex may be a liposome with nucleic acid complexed to the outside or entrapped within the liposome, or the complex may be in the form of interleaved lipid and nucleic acid, or the complex may be a mixture of any or all of the above physical forms. For intravenous administration, generally the complex is prepared by sonicating the lipid mixture to be used and then mixing the sonicated mixture with the nucleic acid in an appropriate DNA:lipid ratio in a physiologically acceptable diluent immediately prior to use. The lipid carriers can be prepared from a variety of cationic lipids, including DOTAP, DOTMA, DDAB, L-PE, and the like. Lipid carrier mixtures containing a cationic lipid, such as N-[1-(2,3-dioleyloxy) propyl]-N,N,N-triethylammonium chloride (DOTMA) also known as "lipofectin", dimethyl dioctadecyl ammonium bromide (DDAB), 1,2-dioleyloxy-3-(trimethylammonio) propane (DOTAP) or L-lysanyl-phosphatidylethanolamine (L-PE) and a second lipid, such as dioleoylphosphatidylethanolamine (DOPE) or cholesterol (Chol), are of particular interest. DOTMA synthesis is described in Felgner, et al., (1987) *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sciences, (USA)* 84:7413-7417. DOTAP synthesis is described in Stamatatos, et al., *Biochemistry*, (1988) 27:3917-3925. DOTMA:DOPE lipid carriers can be purchased from, for example, BRL. DOTAP:DOPE lipid carriers can be purchased from Boehringer Mannheim. Cholesterol and DDAB are commercially available from Sigma Corporation. DOPE is commercially available from Avanti Polar Lipids.

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DDAB:DOPE can be purchased from Promega. Biodegradable cationic amphophiles also can be used (see, for example, copending PCT application attorney docket number MEBI-002/00WO filed December 17, 1992).

5 Lipid carriers such as cationic liposomes can mediate high level cellular expression of transgenes or mRNA by delivering the nucleic acid into a wide variety of cells in culture. The use of specific cationic lipids can confer specific advantages for in vivo delivery of
10 complexes. For example, iv injection of nucleic acid complexed to DOTAP-containing liposomes or ethyl-phosphatidylcholine (E-PC) lipid carriers can target transgene expression primarily to the lung. Furthermore, DOTAP, as well as L-PE and cholesterol ester β -alanine
15 (CEBA) are fully metabolized by cells, whereas DOTMA cannot be fully metabolized by cells. Therefore, DOTAP, E-PC, and L-PE, but not DOTMA, are suitable for repeated injection into mammalian hosts. Additionally, using a lipid carrier comprising a cationic lipid and a second
20 lipid, particularly cholesterol or DOPE can maximize transgene expression in vivo. Also, mixing a steroid, such as cholesterol, instead of DOPE, with DOTAP, DOTMA, or DDAB, substantially increases transgene expression in vivo.

25 Particular cells and tissues can be targeted, depending upon the route of administration and the site of administration. For example, a tissue which is closest to the site of injection in the direction of blood flow can be transfected in the absence of any
30 specific targeting. Additionally, if desired, the lipid carriers may be modified to direct the complexes to particular types of cells using site-directing molecules. Thus antibodies or ligands for particular receptors or other cell surface proteins may be employed, with a
35 target cell associated with a particular surface protein.

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For example, the AIDS virus is primarily directed to cells having the CD4 surface protein. By having anti-CD4 antibody bound to the surface of the lipid carrier, a nucleic acid lipid carrier complex can be directed 5 primarily to T-helper cells.

A particular ligand or antibody can be conjugated to the lipid in accordance with conventional ways, either by conjugating the site-directing molecule to a lipid or by providing for a linking group on a lipid present in 10 the bilayer for linking to a functionality of the site-directing compound. Such techniques are well known to those skilled in the art. Ligand-directed DNA-polycation complexes have been shown to transfect to hepatocytes in the liver after iv injection; the ability to transfect 15 other cell types or tissue types by this approach has not been demonstrated.

Non-cationic lipid carriers, particularly pH sensitive liposomes, offer another potentially attractive approach to in vivo gene therapy. However, as compared 20 to cationic liposomes, pH sensitive liposomes are less efficient in capturing DNA and delivering DNA intracellularly and may be inactivated in the presence of serum, thus limiting their iv use.

A number of factors can affect the amount of 25 expression in transfected tissue and thus can be used to modify the level of expression to fit a particular purpose. Where a high level of expression is desired, all factors can be optimized, where less expression is desired, one or more parameters can be altered so that 30 the desired level of expression is attained. For example, if high expression would exceed the therapeutic window, then less than optimum conditions can be used. The factors which can be modified are as follows:

Either the lipid composition of the complex or the 35 mean diameter of the lipid carriers (when in particle

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form such as a liposome) injected can dramatically affect the level of transgene expression produced *in vivo*. Thus, the liposomal lipid compositions generally have a composition of 50% molar ratio of cationic lipid to non-5 cationic lipid, but may range from 5% to 100%. The diameter of the lipid carriers should generally be within the range of 100nm to 10 μm . Cationic lipid carrier-DNA complexes wherein the lipid carriers range from 100 nm to several μm in diameter can produce significant levels of 10 transgene expression after systemic introduction into a mammalian host.

The use of lipid carriers of greater than 500 nm (i.e. multilamellar vesicles (MLV) or large unilamellar vesicles (LUV)) can in certain cases significantly 15 increase the level of transgene expression achieved in a mammalian host when compared to small unilamellar vesicles (SUV). MLV and LUV are prepared by vortexing rather than sonicating after addition of the aqueous material to the dry lipid film. Where it is desired to 20 use particles, the resulting lipid carriers can be extruded under high pressure through sized polycarbonate membranes to achieve particular uniform size distributions for a particular use.

The use of particular nucleic acid to lipid 25 carrier ratio also can increase the amount of transfection and/or the level of transcription and/or expression of a nucleic acid sequence of interest. The ratios used determine whether and to what level transgenes are expressed *in vivo* thus can be optimized, 30 depending upon various factors including the nature of the construct, the size and lipid composition of the lipid carrier and whether it is MLV or SUV, the route of administration and the host mammal. As an example, using a reporter gene CAT (chloramphenicol acetyl transferase), 35 an approximately 1:1 (range 0.5:1 to 2:1) DNA to lipid

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carrier ratio (μ g DNA to nmoles of the cationic lipid) produces the highest levels of gene expression in a mouse in all organs after ip administration, and an approximately 1:4 ratio, (range 2:1 to 1:7) produces the highest levels of gene expression in all organs after iv administration. In addition to achieving a high level of transgene expression in a wide variety of tissues using optimal conditions, the majority of all cells present in the lung, spleen, lymph nodes and bone marrow are transfected *in vivo*, as well as the majority of all endothelial cells present in the heart.

The DNA:lipid carrier ratio also can affect at what level transgenes are expressed in mammalian hosts after systemic injection of the complexes. Several factors are important in order optimize the DNA:lipid carrier ratio for a particular expression level desired. Thus, specific DNA:lipid carrier ratios are required for each type of cationic lipid used as well as for each different lipid carrier size used. To optimize for maximum expression, for each lipid carrier composition used, DNA is be mixed together with the lipid carriers in multiple different ratios, ranging from 6:1 to 1:10 (μ g DNA to nmole cationic lipid), in order first to determine which ratios result in aggregation of the DNA:lipid carrier complexes. Ratios which result in aggregation cannot be used *in vivo*. The ratios which do not result in aggregation are tested in animal models to determine which of the DNA:lipid carrier ratios confers the desired level of transgene expression *in vivo*. For example, the optimal DNA:lipid carrier ratios for SUV for DOTMA:DOPE, DDAB:DOPE, DOTAP:DOPE, DOTAP:Cholesterol, L-PE:CEBA, DDAB:Cholesterol and L-PE:DOPE are 1:4, 1:3, (very low activity at all ratios), 1:6, 1:1, 1:5, and 2:1, respectively. DNA:lipid carrier complexes are made in appropriate physiologic solutions. The DNA:lipid carrier

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complexes are mixed in physiologic solutions (approximately 290 milliosmoles) which do not themselves induce aggregation of the DNA:lipid carrier complexes. The solutions include 5% dextrose in water or normal saline. Cell surface receptors for cationic lipid carriers can be used to both regulate and confer target cell specificity on transgene expression in mammalian hosts. Cationic lipid carrier:DNA complexes are internalized by cells by a classical receptor-mediated endocytosis (see Figure 7) using cell surface receptors which contain specific binding sites for, and are able to internalize, cationic molecules. Using agents such as cytokines, growth factors, other soluble proteins and certain drugs, it is thus possible to selectively up or down regulate these cation-binding receptors. The rate of up or down regulation of these receptors by the appropriate agent will allow selection of specific cells for enhanced or reduced levels of transfection *in vivo*. Cell surface receptors for naked DNA also can be used both to regulate and to confer target cell specificity on transgenic expression in mammalian host.

The most frequent interaction between DOTMA lipid carriers, either uni- or multilamellar lipid carriers, complexed to plasmid DNA and the various cell types (for example, CV-1 monkey kidney cells, U937 human myelomonocytic leukemia cells, K562, MEL (murine erythroblastic leukemia cells), rat alveolar macrophages, and alveolar type II cells), is that of lipid carrier adhesion and internalization. This interaction is common to well-defined examples of receptor-mediated endocytosis. All cells which appear to have contacted cationic lipid carrier:DNA complexes ingest the complexes following binding of the complexes to the plasma membrane. All these cell types demonstrate the same

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classical receptor-mediated endocytic pathway of internalization.

The mammalian host may be any mammal, particularly a mammal having symptoms of a genetically-based disorder 5 or an infectious disease which is amenable to gene-based therapy. Thus, the subject application finds use in domestic animals, feed stock, such as bovine, ovine, and porcine, as well as primates, particularly humans. The mammalian host may be pregnant, and the intended 10 recipient of the gene-based therapy may be either the gravid female or the fetus or both.

In the method of the invention, transfection *in vivo* is obtained by introducing a therapeutic transcription or expression vector into the mammalian 15 host, either as naked DNA or complexed to lipid carriers, particularly cationic lipid carriers. The constructs may provide for integration into the host cell genome for stable maintenance of the transgene or for episomal expression of the transgene. The introduction into the 20 mammalian host may be by any of several routes, including intravenous or intraperitoneal injection, intratracheally, intrathecally, parenterally, intraarticularly, intranasally, intramuscularly, topical, transdermal, application to any mucous membrane surface, 25 corneal instillation, etc. Of particular interest is the introduction of a therapeutic expression vector into a circulating bodily fluid or into a body orifice or cavity, such as lung, colon, vagina, and the like. Thus, iv administration and intrathecal administration are of 30 particular interest since the vector may be widely disseminated following such routes of administration, and aerosol administration finds use with introduction into a body orifice or cavity. Any physiologically acceptable medium may be employed for administering the DNA or lipid 35 carriers, such as deionized water, saline, phosphate-

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buffered saline, 5% dextrose in water, and the like, depending upon the route of administration. Other components may be included in the formulation such as buffers, stabilizers, biocides, etc. These components 5 have found extensive exemplification in the literature and need not be described in particular here. Any diluent or components of diluents that would cause aggregation of the complexes should be avoided, including high salt, chelating agents, and the like.

10 The amount of naked DNA or complexes used will be an amount sufficient to provide for adequate dissemination to a variety of tissues after entry of the DNA or complexes into the bloodstream and to provide for a therapeutic level of expression in transfected tissues.

15 A therapeutic level of expression is a sufficient amount of expression to, prevent, treat or palliate a disease or infection of the host mammal. In addition, the dose of the nucleic acid vector used must be sufficient to produce a desired level of transgene expression in the

20 tissue or tissues of interest, *in vivo* for example, $\geq 1\text{mg}$ of an expression plasmid alone injected into a mouse results in a high level of expression of the CAT gene in multiple tissues. Other DNA sequences, such as adenovirus VA genes can be included in the administration

25 medium and be co-transfected with the gene of interest. The presence of genes coding for the adenovirus VA gene product may significantly enhance the translation of mRNA transcribed from the plasmid if this is desired.

The level and tissues of expression of the 30 recombinant gene may be determined at the mRNA level and/or at the level of polypeptide or protein. Gene product may be quantitated by measuring its biological activity in tissues. For example, enzymatic activity can be measured by biological assay or by identifying the 35 gene product in transfected cells by immunostaining

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techniques such as probing with an antibody which specifically recognizes the gene product or a reporter gene product present in the expression cassette.

Alternatively, potential therapeutic effects of the gene product can be measured, for example where the DNA sequence of interest encodes GM-CSF, by determining the effects of gene expression on survival of lethally irradiated animals in which the GM-CSF transgene is expressed. Production of significant amounts of a transgene product will substantially prolong the survival of these mice.

Where expression of the polypeptide/protein or even the mRNA itself confers a changed biochemical phenotype upon the host, the presence of a new phenotype or absence of an old phenotype may be evaluated; for example, as a result of transfection of the host cells, there may be enhanced production of pre-existing desirable products formerly produced in insufficient quantities or there may be reduction or even suppression of an undesirable gene product using antisense, ribozyme or co-suppression technologies; in the case of suppression, a reduction of the gene product may be determined. Typically, the therapeutic cassette is not integrated into the host cell genome. If necessary, the treatment can be repeated on an *ad hoc* basis depending upon the results achieved. If the treatment is repeated, the mammalian host can be monitored to ensure that there is no adverse immune or other response to the treatment.

As an example, in a clinical setting where it is desired to treat a particular disease state, both the biological efficacy of the treatment modality as well as the clinical efficacy need to be evaluated, if possible. For example, in the treatment of cystic fibrosis, there is a generalized epithelial dysfunction which manifests itself as abnormalities in the electrolyte and water

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content of luminal liquid or "secretions" of the airways, sweat glands, intestinal and reproductive tracts, and pancreas. The biological efficacy of gene therapy therefore can be evaluated by for example measuring the 5 transepithelial electrical potential difference prior to treatment and following transfection. The evaluations can be done following transfection of nasal cells and also following transfection lung cells. Examples of techniques which can be used for measuring the 10 bioelectric potential difference across respiratory epithelial and cystic fibrosis as described in Knowles, et al., (1981) *New England General of Medicine* 305:1489-1495; Knowles, et al., (1983) *General of Clinical Investigation* 71:1410-1417; and Knowles, et al., (1983) 15 *Science* 221:1067-1070. The clinical efficacy, whether treatment of the underlying defect is effective in changing the course of disease, can be more difficult to measure. While the evaluation of the biological efficacy goes a long way as a surrogate end point for the clinical 20 efficacy, and is not definitive. Thus, measuring a clinical endpoint such as the so-called "spirometry" factors which give an indication of lung function of a for example, a six-month period of time, may give an indication of a clinical efficacy of the treatment 25 regimen. Typical measurements would include forced vital capacity (FVC) of the lung and forced expired volume in one second (FEV). An example of the type of clinical study which can be performed to evaluate the efficacy of gene therapy for cystic fibrosis is one which is being 30 used for amiloride for the treatment of lung disease and cystic fibrosis: Knowles, et al., (1990) *New England General of Medicine* 322:1189-1194. Similarly, one skilled in the art can evaluate the biological and clinical efficacy of a particular gene therapy protocol.

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The subject compositions can be provided for use in one or more procedures. Kits will usually include the DNA either as naked DNA or complexed to lipid carriers. Additionally, lipid carriers may be provided in a 5 separate container for complexing with the provided DNA. The DNA either for direct administration or for complexing with lipid carriers, or the lipid carrier/DNA complexes may be present as concentrates which may be further diluted prior to use or they may be provided at 10 the concentration of use, where the vials may include one or more dosages. Conveniently, single dosages may be provided in sterile vials so that the physician or veterinarian may employ the vials directly, where the vials will have the desired amount and concentration of 15 agents. Thus, a vial may contain the DNA or the DNA/lipid carrier complexes in appropriate proportional amounts. When the vials contain the formulation for direct use, usually there will be no need for other reagents for use with the method.

20 The invention finds use in *in vivo* prevention, treatment and/or palliation of a number of diseases. *In vivo* replacement of a gene can be accomplished by techniques such as homologous recombination or initial knockout of the aberrant gene and subsequent replacement 25 with the desired transgene. An additional benefit of expressing nucleic acids in appropriate cells *in vivo* using this invention, is that the encoded proteins would be processed and subject to post translational modification in the correct manner.

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The following examples are offered by way of illustration and not by limitation.

EXAMPLES

Table of Contents

5 Example 1 Preparation of Plasmids for in vivo Gene Therapy

pRSVCAT

p5'PRL3-CAT

pSIS-CAT

10 pZN20 (see Figure 5)

pZN27 (see Figure 9)

pZN46 (see Figures 10 A,B)

pZN32 (see Figure 11)

pZN51 (see Figure 13)

15 pZN60, pZN61, pZN62, pZN63 (see Figures 14, A, B, C)

pCIS-CAT

Example 2 Preparation of Lipid Carriers and DNA Complexing with Lipid Carriers

20 Preparation of Lipid Carriers

Plasmid Preparation

Preparation of Lipid Carrier-Plasmid Complexes

Example 3 Demonstration by Immunohistochemistry of CAT Gene Expression in the Lung after Intravenous (iv) Injection of pZN27-DDAB:Cholesterol Lipid Carrier Complexes (see Figure 1)

Example 4 Expression of pCIS-CAT following Intraperitoneal Administration

30 Example 5 Demonstration of CAT Gene Expression in the spleen After Intravenous (iv) Injection of p5'PRL3-CAT:L-PE:CEBA Complexes

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10 Example 6 Injection of DOTMA:DOPE + pSIS-CAT Plasmid clearly did Not Produce Detectable CAT Gene Expression in vivo

15 Example 7 Interaction of DNA:Lipid Carrier Complexes with Cell Surface Receptors (see Figure 7)

20 Example 8 Demonstration that Mouse T Lymphocytes are Transfected in vivo (see Figures 2 A,B)

25 Example 9 Demonstration that Mouse Hematopoietic Bone Marrow-derived Cells are Transfected in vivo

30 Example 10 Demonstration that Human CD4⁺ Lymphocytes, freshly isolated from Normal Donors, are Transfected (see Figure 4)

35 Example 11 Efficient Transfection of a variety of Human Lung Cancer Cell Lines using Cationic Liposome-mediated Delivery of DNA (see Figure 21)

40 Example 12 Transfection of Lung Cancers in Mice by Intravenous Injection of Cationic Lipid Carrier:DNA Complexes (see Figure 8 A, B)

45 Example 13 Demonstration of High Level CAT Gene Expression in Multiple Tissues after Intravenous (iv) Injection of pZN27 alone, or pZN27:DDAB:Cholesterol SUV Complexes

50 Example 14 Induction of High Levels of Human Interleukin-2 in the Spleen and Lymph Nodes of Mice by Intravenous Injection of Cationic Lipid Carriers Complexed to a CMV-Interleukin-2 Gene

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60 Example 16 Demonstration of CAT Gene Expression in Lung and Liver after Intravenous Injection of

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Different CAT Gene-Containing Plasmids (see Figure 15)

Example 17 Generalized versus Tissue and Cell Type-specific CAT Gene Expression produced by iv Injection of CMV-CAT-Liposome or CFTR-CAT-Liposome Complexes, respectively (see Figure 16 A-K)

5 Example 18 Comparison of Transfection Focusing on iv Injection of Plasmid alone with iv Injection of Plasmid Complexed to a Lipid Carrier (see Figure 19 A,B)

10 Example 19 IV Injection of GM-CSF Expression Plasmid-Cationic Liposome Complexes Produces Significant Antitumor Effects

15 Example 20 pZN84 (see Figure 17)

20 Example 20 Prolonged, High Level Murine GM-CSF Gene Expression in *in vivo* after Intravenous (iv) injection of pZN84 complexed to DDAB:Cholesterol (1:1) Liposomes into Goats (see Figures 22, 23)

25 Example 21 Influence of Liposome-GM-CSF Plasmid Complex on the Course of Experimental Viral Pneumonia in Mice

Example 22 High Level Expression of the CAT Gene in Mouse Brain produced by Injection of DNA alone or DNA-Cationic Liposome Complexes directly into the Central Nervous System (see Figure 20).

30 Example 23 Demonstration of CAT Gene Expression in the Lung after Intravenous (iv) Injection of pRSV-CAT:L-PE:CEBA Complexes

Example 24 Demonstration of CAT Gene Expression in Multiple Tissues after Intravenous (iv) Injection of pZN20-CAT:DDAB:DOPE Complexes

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Example 1

Preparation of Plasmids for in vivo Gene Therapy

Details regarding the plasmids that have been used for transfection of mammalian cells are as follows.

5 pRSVCAT: construction of this plasmid is described in Gorman et al., (1982) *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sciences (USA)* 79:6777-6781. In the pRSVCAT plasmid, the 3'-RSVLTR is juxtaposed as a promoter upstream from CAT encoding sequences. The distance between the LTR transcriptional 10 start site and the CAT initiation codon (the first AUG downstream from the start site) is about 70 bp.

15 p5'PRL3-CAT: construction of this plasmid is described in Sakai

et al., (1988) *Genes and Development* 2:1144-1154.

20 pSIS-CAT: construction of this plasmid is described in Huang and Gorman, *Nucleic Acids Research*, (1990) 18:937-948.

pZN20: construction of this plasmid is illustrated in Figure 5. The plasmid was prepared as follows.

25 pCATwt760 (Stinski and Roehr, (1985) *J. Virol.* 55:431-441) was treated with *Hind*III and the fragment containing the HCMV IE 1 enhancer and promoter element purified. The isolated fragment was then cloned into the *Hind*III site of pSP72 (Promega) creating pZN9. Clones were

30 screened in which the enhancer and promoter element is as shown in Figure 5. Following partial *Hind*III digestion of pZN9, the blunt ends were filled in with DNA polymerase I Klenow fragment. The resulting clone pZN12 had lost the *Hind*III site 5' to the enhancer and promoter

35 element. pZN12 was then treated with *Nco*I and *Hind*III and the large *Nco*I-*Hind*III fragment purified and ligated to a purified small *Nco*I-*Hind*III fragment from pBC12/CMV/IL-2 (Cullen, (1986) *Cell* 46:973-982.

pBC12/CMV/IL-2 contains the HCMV promoter from the AD169

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strain. The resulting clone was pZN13. pZN13 was partially digested with *Bam*HI, filled in with DNA polymerase I Klenow fragment and the resulting clones screened for the clone which had lost the *Bam*HI site at 5 the 5' end of the enhancer and promoter element. The resulting clone was called pZN17. pZN17 was treated with *Hind*III and *Bam*HI and the resulting *Hind*III-*Bam*HI large fragment was purified and ligated to a purified small *Hind*III-*Bam*HI fragment obtained from pSV2-CAT (Gorman, et 10 al., (1982), *Molecular Cell Biology* 2:1044-1051). The resulting clone was pZN20. The full restriction map of HCMV (Towne) is shown in Figure 6A. HCMV (AD169) is shown in Figure 6C. A comparison of the two promoters is shown in Figure 6B. Significantly more expression is 15 obtained when a promoter from the AD169 strain is used as compared to one from the Towne strain. pZN20 contains a composite promoter which has the Towne sequence 5' of the *Nco*I site and the AD169 sequence 3' of the *Nco*I site. The *Nco*I site is indicated by the asterisk in Figure 6B. 20 pZN20 has this composite HCMV promoter followed by the CAT gene, SV40 t-intron and SV40 polyA adenylation site.

pZN27: Construction of this plasmid is illustrated in Figure 9. pZN27 contains the composite HCMV promoter followed in order by the SV40 t-intron, the 25 CAT coding sequence and the SV40 polyA adenylation site.

pZN46: Construction of this plasmid is shown in Figure 10A and Figure 10B. pZN46 contains the composite HCMV promoter, followed by the human IL-2 gene, rat preproinsulin 2 intron and polyA addition site from the 30 rat preproinsulin 2 gene. These last three components were derived from the pBC12/CMV/IL-2 plasmid of Cullen (Cell, (1986) 46:973-982. The rat preproinsulin 2 intron was modified by deleting an internal 162 base pair *Nde*I fragment.

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pZN32: Construction of this plasmid is shown in Figure 11. pZN32 contains the composite HCMV promoter followed in order by the modified rat preproinsulin 2 intron described for pZN46, human CFTR cDNA, and rat 5 preproinsulin 2 gene polyA addition site as described for pZN46. CFTR cDNA was obtained from pBQ4.7 from F. Collins (Univ. of Michigan).

pZN51: Construction of this plasmid is shown in Figure 13. pZN51 contains the composite HCMV promoter 10 followed by the CAT coding sequence and the SV40 polyA adenylation site.

pZN60, pZN61, pZN62, pZN63: Construction of these plasmids is shown in Figure 14. pZN60 contains the HCMV composite promoter followed by the modified rat 15 preproinsulin 2 intron, the CAT coding sequence, and the SV40 polyA addition site. pZN61 is identical to pZN60 but contains an additional 166 base pairs 5' to the intron. This additional DNA is the 166 base pairs immediately 5' of the intron in the pBC12/CMV/IL-2 20 plasmid and contains rat preproinsulin 2 gene coding sequence. pZN62 is similar to pZN60 except that the intron is 3' of the CAT coding sequence rather than 5' as in pZN60. pZN63 is identical to pZN62 except for the additional 166 base pairs 5' to the intron. This is the 25 same additional sequence described for pZN61.

pCIS-CAT: This plasmid was made as described in Huang, M.T.F. and Gorman, C.M.; (1990) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 18:937-947, with the exception that a CMV promoter and a hybrid intron sequence were used rather than the SV40 30 promoter in the plasmid pML.I.CAT, Gorman, et al., (1990) *DNA Protein Eng. Tech.*, 2:3-10.

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Example 2

Preparation of Lipid carriers and DNA Complexing with Lipid carriers

Lipid carriers containing a cationic lipid, such as N-[(1-2-3-dioleyloxy) propyl]-N,N,N-triethylammonium chloride (DOTMA), dimethyl dioctadecyl ammonium bromide (DDAB), or 1,2-dioleyloxy-3-(trimethylammonio)propane (DOTAP) or L-lysinyl-phosphatidylethanolamine (L-PE) and a second lipid, such as dioleoylphosphatidylethanolamine (DOPE) or cholesterol, were prepared as follows.

Preparation of lipid carriers:

Lipids, e.g. DDAB, L-PE, cholesterol-ester- β -alanine (CEBA), DOTAP, and cholesterol (Chol) were dissolved in chloroform. Proper amounts of each lipid (determined by the desired molar ratio of each lipid in the final lipid carrier formulation usually 1 to 1 moles cationic lipid to moles non-cationic lipid but ranging from 5 to 1 up to 1 to 5) were mixed together and evaporated to dryness on a rotary evaporator. The lipid film was then resuspended by vortexing after the addition of 5% dextrose in water or lipid carrier buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 100 μ M ZnCl₂, NaCl to isotonicity. To make a final lipid concentration of 20mM of multi-lamellar vesicles (MLV). For the preparation of small unilamellar vesicles (SUV), the mixture was then sonicated in a bath sonicator for 15 min, and the lipid carriers were stored under argon at 4°C until use.

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Plasmid Preparation:

The *E. coli* strain HB101 which carried the plasmid was grown in TB at 37°C. The method of plasmid purification is a modification of the protocol of "lysis by alkali" and "purification of plasmid DNA by precipitation with polyethylene glycol" described by Sambrook et al., (1989) (Molecular Cloning, 2nd edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press). The modification was that the precipitation of DNA by PEG was omitted.

10 The final DNA preparation was dissolved in 10mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0.

Preparation of lipid carrier-plasmid complexes:

Plasmids were diluted separately in 5% dextrose in water solution to the desired concentration (usually 1 15 μ g/ μ l). The lipid carriers were also diluted in 5% dextrose in water to the same volume as the plasmid.

The amounts of lipid carriers used were determined based on the ratio of nmoles of lipid to μ g of plasmid added, e.g. for lipid carrier:plasmid=1:1, one n mole of 20 cationic lipid is mixed with 1 μ g of plasmid DNA. Plasmid and lipid carriers were then mixed together to form DNA:lipid carrier complexes.

Dose injected. At least 50 μ g, and routinely 100 μ g of plasmid DNA complexed to cationic lipid carriers were 25 injected intravenously by tail vein per mouse. For injection of plasmid alone, at least 500 μ g and routinely 2 mg of plasmid DNA were injected intravenously by tail vein per mouse.

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Example 3

Demonstration by Immunohistochemistry of CAT Gene Expression in the

Lung After Intravenous (iv) injection of pZN27-DDAB:

5 Cholesterol Lipid carrier Complexes

Lipid carrier: DDAB:Cholesterol=1:1, stock 20 mM in lipid carrier buffer.

Plasmid: pZN27.

10 DNA:Lipid carrier Ratio: lipid carrier:plasmid=5 nanomoles cationic lipid:1 µg DNA

DNA dose: 100 µg plasmid DNA in 200 µl 5% dextrose in water was injected iv by tail vein per mouse.

Mice: ICR, female, 25 grams.

Immunohistochemical staining to detect CAT protein in
15 lung sections of mice treated in vivo.
Procedure: Forty eight hours after injection of the pZN27-DDAB:Cholesterol complexes, the lungs are removed, perfused with 33% O.C.T. Embedding Medium (Miles, Inc.), embedded in O.C.T. and snap frozen. Frozen tissues were 20 sectioned at 6 µm, collected onto glass slides, fixed for 10 minutes in 4°C acetone and then placed in 0.2% Triton X-100 to permeabilize membranes. Sections were then incubated for 12-48 hours with the monoclonal anti-CAT antibody (available from Dr. Parker Antin, Univ. of 25 Arizona) or isotype negative control antibody at the appropriate dilution. After washing, a biotinylated antibody directed against the primary antibody (Zymed, S. San Francisco) was added for a minimum of 60 minutes, followed by application of the streptavidin-alkaline 30 phosphatase complex (Zymed) for 60 minutes. The substrate-chromogen appropriate for the enzyme label was then applied, per the manufacturer's instructions.

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Slides were coverslipped in water-soluble mounting media for examination.

Results: The results are shown in Figure 1 and demonstrate diffuse staining of the lung. The stain 5 localizes to the alveolar walls, indicating that greater than 70% of pulmonary vascular endothelial cells, as well as alveolar lining cells, including type I and type II cells and alveolar macrophages are transfected by a single iv injection of DNA lipid carrier complexes. In 10 addition, significant numbers of bronchiolar airway lining cells stain positively for CAT protein, and are therefore transfected *in vivo* by iv injection of lipid carrier:DNA complexes. Thus, the great majority of all 15 cells in the lung transfected by an iv injection of pZN27-DDAB:Cholesterol complexes.

Example 4

Expression of pCIS-CAT

Following Intraperitoneal Administration

Effect of the Amount of pCIS-CAT-cationic lipid carrier complexes injected ip on the level of CAT gene expression in vivo.

Female ICR mice were injected ip with 1 ml of 5% dextrose in water containing 0.01, 0.1, or 1 mg of pCIS-CAT expression plasmid complexed with 0.01, 0.1 or 1 25 μ moles, respectively, of DDAB:DOPE lipid carriers. Mice were sacrificed 48 hours later, the organs removed, and tissues were homogenized in 0.25M Tris-HCl buffer pH 7.8, using a hand-held homogenizer. Cytoplasmic extracts were made, normalized by protein content and the level of CAT 30 activity then measured. The experiments comprise three animals per group and the results show the mean dpm \pm SEM of acetylated chloramphenicol.

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Methods: Lipid carriers containing DDAB were prepared in 1:1 molar ratio with DOPE, as follows: 10 μ moles of DOPE dissolved in chloroform and 10 μ moles of the cationic lipid, dissolved in ethanol were evaporated 5 to dryness on a rotary evaporator. One ml sterile of water was added, and the mixture was sonicated in a bath sonicator (Laboratory Supply, Hicksville, NY) for 20 min. Lipid carriers had mean diameters of approximately 100 \pm 25 nm. For CAT assay, cell extracts were made, and 10 their protein content determined by the Coomassie Blue assay (BioRad, Richmond). One hundred μ g of protein from the lung, spleen, liver, and heart extracts, and 50 μ g of 15 lymph node extract were reacted with 14 C labeled chloramphenicol and chromatographed as previously described (Gorman, *supra*). To calculate dpm, both the acetylated and unacetylated species were cut from TLC plates and radioactivity counted in a scintillation counter.

Results: To assess potential dose-response 20 relationships in vivo, animals were injected animals in groups of three with 0.01 mg, 0.1 mg, or 1 mg of pCIS-CAT plasmid complexed with 0.01 μ mole, 0.1 μ mole, or 1 μ mole respectively of DDAB:DOPE lipid carriers. Both the 0.1 mg and 1 mg DNA doses produced highly significant levels 25 of CAT protein ($p < 0.005$) in all the organs assayed. Maximal levels of CAT gene expression in each organ were produced by the 1 mg DNA dose: increasing the DNA-lipid carrier dose 10 fold resulted in an approximately 2 fold increase in lymph node CAT levels and a 3 fold increase 30 in the spleen.

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Example 5

Demonstration of CAT gene expression in the spleen after intravenous (iv) injection of p5'PRL3-CAT:L-PE:CEBA complexes.

5 Lipid carrier: L-PE:CEBA=1:1, stock 20 mM in lipid carrier buffer.

Plasmid: p5'PRL3-CAT. (Sakai, et al., (1988) *Genes and Development* 2:1144-1154)

DNA:Lipid carrier Ratio: lipid carrier:plasmid=1 nmole

10 cationic lipid:

1 μ g plasmid DNA.

DNA dose: 200 μ g plasmid DNA in 200 μ l 5% dextrose in water was injected by tail vein per mouse.

Mice: Balb/c, female, 25 grams.

15 Tissue extraction procedure: Forty eight hours after tail vein injection, mice were sacrificed, whole spleens were homogenized in 1ml of 0.25M Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 5mM EDTA, 80 μ g/ml PMSF and the resulting extract was centrifuged and then the supernatant was subjected to 3

20 cycles of freeze-thaw and then heated to 65°C for 20 min.

CAT assay procedure: 100 μ l of extract+10 μ l of 20 mM acetyl CoA+4 μ l of 14 C-chloramphenicol (25 μ Ci/ml, 55 mCi/mmol, Amersham) were incubated together at 37°C for 6 hr. At 3 hours, an additional 10 μ l of acetyl CoA

25 was added.

Results:

This experiment showed that a significant level of CAT activity was present in the spleen extract of the treated animal, but not in the extract of control spleen, 30 taken from an animal injected with lipid carrier alone.

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Example 6

Injection of DOTMA:DOPE+pSIS-CAT Plasmid Clearly Did Not Produce Detectable CAT Gene Expression *in vivo*)

5 Lipid carrier: DOTMA:DOPE=1:1, in 5% dextrose in water
Plasmid: pSIS-CAT (Huang, and Gorman, (1990) *Nucleic Acids Research* 18:937-947).
Ratio: Cationic lipid:plasmid=4 nmoles: 1 μ g, dose: 100 μ g DNA in 200 μ l 5% dextrose in water.

10 10 Mouse: ICR, female, 25 grams.

Injection: tail vein.

Tissue collection and processing: Mice were sacrificed at day 2 and day 6, and lung, spleen, liver, and heart were collected. The whole organs were homogenized in 0.5 ml, except livers which were homogenized in 2.0 ml, of 0.25M Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 5 mM EDTA, 2 μ g/ml aprotinin, 1 μ g/ml E-64, and 0.5 μ g/ml leupeptin (all protease inhibitors purchased from Boehringer Mannheim). Extracts were subjected to three cycles of freeze-thaw, then heated to 65°C for 10 min.

20 CAT assay: 100 μ l of extracts for each assay with 0.3 μ Ci of 14 C-chloramphenicol and 10 μ l of 20 mM acetyl CoA at 37°C for either 5 hrs or 24.5 hrs, and the materials were then extracted using ethyl acetate and analyzed on 25 TLC plates.

Results:

There were no acetylated chloramphenicol species presented as determined by comparing the extracts from treated animals with that from control animals. Thus, 30 under similar experimental conditions that produce high level expression of pZN27, the use of the pSIS-CAT expression vector does not result in any detectable expression of the linked-CAT gene in any of the tissues assayed *in vivo*. The lack of expression of pSIS-CAT in

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vivo may be due either to a different promoter-enhancer element (SV40) or to a different intron sequence when compared to the pZN27 vector, which yields high level *in vivo* expression.

5

Example 7

Interaction Of DNA: Lipid carrier Complexes
With Cell Surface Receptors

Cells and cell culture: CV-1 (African green monkey kidney), U937 (human myelocytic leukemia), murine 10 erythroleukemia (MEL) cells, and K562 cells (human erythroleukemia cells were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (Rockville, MD). CV-1 and MEL cells were maintained in Dulbecco minimum essential medium DME-H-21 with 5% fetal bovine serum (FBS) at 37°C 15 and 7% CO₂. Rat alveolar type II cells and rat alveolar macrophages were isolated and purified as previously described. (Debs et al., (1987) *Amer. Rev. Respiratory Disease* 135:731-737; Dobbs, (1986) *Amer. Rev. Respiratory Disease* 134:141-145) Type II cells were maintained in 20 DME-H-16 with 5% FBS at 37°C and 7% CO₂. Twenty nmole of DOTMA:DOPE lipid carriers complexed to 20 µg of pRSV-CAT plasmid DNA were added to 2 million cells growing in 60 mm Falcon plastic dishes (either SUV or MLV), and fixed for EM at time points from 15 minutes to 2 hours 25 thereafter.

Fixation and Processing for Electron Microscopy

DOTMA lipid carriers and cells in tissue culture or freshly isolated from blood or pulmonary alveoli were fixed in 1.5% glutaraldehyde in 0.1 molar sodium 30 cacodylate buffer containing 1% sucrose, pH 7.4, at room temperature for 1 hr. Following tannic acid and uranyl acetate enhancement, tissue was dehydrated in a graded series of alcohols and embedded in epoxy 812 resin.

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(Ernest F. Fullam, Inc., Latham, NY) sectioned on an MT 2 microtome using diamond knives and examined with a Jeol 100CX transmission electron microscope operating at 80 kV. Electron photomicrographs of the internalization of 5 lipid complexes in CV-1 monkey kidney cells are shown in Figure 7. The arrows in panel (a) show particles binding to clathrin-coated pits; in panel (b), the arrows show where the particles have been ingested and are present in endosomes.

10 The most frequent interaction between DOTMA lipid carriers, either uni- or multilamellar lipid carriers, complexed to plasmid DNA and the various cell types (CV-1 monkey kidney cells, U937 human myelomonocytic leukemia cells, K562, MEL erythroblastic leukemia cells, rat 15 alveolar macrophages, and alveolar type II cells), is that of lipid carrier adhesion and internalization in a typical coated vesicle pathway (Fig. 7 a-f). This interaction is common to well defined examples of receptor-mediated endocytosis. All cells which appear to 20 have contacted cationic lipid carrier:DNA complexes ingest the complexes after binding to the plasma membrane. All these cell types (derived from rodent, monkey and human cells, demonstrated the same classical receptor-mediated endocytic pathway of internalization. 25 DNA-cationic liposome complexes were generally taken up by human cells as well as or better than nonhuman and particularly rodent cells of similar lineage.

Example 8

30 Demonstration that Mouse T Lymphocytes are Transfected in vivo.

Female ICR mice were injected ip with 1 ml of 5% dextrose in water containing 1 mg of a pZN27 plasmid complexed to 1 μ mole of DDAB:DOPE (1:1 molar, SUV) lipid.

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carriers. Mice were sacrificed 48 hrs. later, the spleen and lymph nodes were removed, and rendered into single cell suspensions by homogenizing in serum containing medium. The cells were then incubated with FITC-5 conjugated anti-Thy 1.2 antibody (provided by Dr. J. Beck, San Francisco Veterans Administration Medical Center) and sorted by FACS. The Thy 1.2⁺ T lymphocyte fraction was cytospun onto microscope slides and fixed and probed for the presence of intracellular CAT protein 10 after permeabilizing the cells using 0.25% Triton X-100. The cells were incubated with an anti-CAT monoclonal antibody (gift from Dr. P. Antin, Univ. of Arizona) for 1 hr. at 20°C and then stained with a Texas Red- conjugated goat-anti-mouse IgG for 1 hr. at 20°C. Figure 2A shows a 15 field of T lymphocytes by phase contrast microscopy and 2B shows the same field viewed by fluorescence microscopy. These results demonstrate that more than 70% of Thy 1.2⁺ T lymphocytes are transfected *in vivo* (as shown by the red fluorescence), by a single ip injection 20 of pZN27:DDAB:DOPE complexes. Thy 1.2⁺ lymphocytes from untreated mice do not show immunofluorescent staining as shown in 2D; a phase contrast micrograph of the same field is shown in 2C.

Example 9

25 Demonstration that Mouse Hematopoietic Bone Marrow-Derived

Cells Are Transfected *in vivo*.

Female ICR mice were injected ip with 1 ml of 5% dextrose in water containing 1 mg of a pZN27 plasmid 30 complexed to 1 μ mole of DDAB:DOPE SUV lipid carriers. Mice were sacrificed 48 hrs. later, bone marrow-derived hematopoietic cells were then obtained by perfusing the femur cavity with RPMI-1640 medium and then homogenizing

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clumps to obtain a single cell suspension. Bone marrow cells were then centrifuged onto glass slides and fluorescently stained as described in Example 8. This experiment demonstrated that approximately 20% of mouse 5 bone marrow hematopoietic cells (including cells that on the basis of morphology are primitive myeloblastic and erythroblastic precursor cells) were transfected *in vivo* by a single ip dose of pZN27:DDAB:DOPE complexes.

Example 10

10 Demonstration that Human CD4⁺ T Lymphocytes, Freshly Isolated
from Normal Donors, are Transfected *in vitro*.

Buffy coat preparations were freshly isolated from normal human donors by gradient centrifugation. The 15 cells were then panned using an anti-CD3 (Becton-Dickinson, Mountain View, CA) monoclonal antibody to isolate the CD3⁺ T lymphocyte fraction. These cells were then transfected using the following protocol: 10 million cells were plated on 100 mm dishes and then 25 µg of 20 pZN27 complexed to 50 nmoles of DDAB:DOPE (1:1) SUV lipid carriers were added for 48 hours. Control cells were not transfected. The cells were then incubated with a FITC-conjugated monoclonal anti-CD4 antibody (Becton-Dickinson) and sorted by FACS. The resulting CD4⁺ T 25 lymphocytes were cytospun onto microscope slides and fixed and probed for the presence of intracellular CAT protein after permeabilizing the cells using 0.25% Triton x-100. The cells were incubated with an anti-CAT monoclonal antibody for 1 hr at 20°C and then stained 30 with a Texas Red conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG for 1 hr at 20°C.

Results:

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Results are shown in Figure 4 and demonstrate that at least 70% of freshly isolated human CD4⁺ T lymphocytes are transfected after exposure to pZN27:DDAB:DOPE complexes in culture as shown by the red fluorescence of 5 cells in 4B. Control untransfected cells showed no fluorescence. These results suggest that this approach may dramatically improve the therapy of diseases including AIDS and cancer.

As the above results show, high level transgene 10 expression has been achieved in heart, kidney, lymph nodes, bone marrow cells, liver, lung and spleen after systemic (iv or ip) transgene administration. Transfection of the heart, kidney, lymph nodes or bone 15 marrow cells individually after systemic (iv or ip) transgene administration into adults has not previously been accomplished. Transfection of T lymphocytes, lung airway or alveolar cell types, cardiac endothelial lining cells and cardiac muscle cells, and bone marrow hematopoietic precursor cells in vivo by systemic 20 administration of DNA has not been shown previously. Specifically, greater than 50% of T lymphocytes, lung airway epithelial, alveolar and vascular endothelial cell types, cardiac endothelial lining cells and bone marrow hematopoietic precursor cells (including about 70% of 25 blast cells) are transfected in vivo, following one iv or ip injection of CAT expression plasmid-cationic lipid carrier complexes. Transfection of a high percentage of all the cells present in any single tissue has not been reported previously.

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Example 11

Efficient transfection of a variety of human lung cancer cell lines using cationic liposome-mediated delivery of DNA.

5 Method:

Cell Culture: NCI-H69, NCI-H82, and NCI-H520 cells were used. H69 and H520 cells were grown in RPMI-1640 with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and H82 cells were grown in Dulbecco's minimum essential medium (DME)-H21 with 10% FBS.

10 Liposome preparation: Liposomes were prepared as follows: a total of 4 μ moles of lipid dissolved in chloroform, (or in ethanol (DOTMA)) were evaporated to dryness on a rotary evaporator. One ml of 50 mM Tris, 15 0.5 mM EDTA, 50 mM NaCl, 100 μ M ZnCl₂ buffer per 20 μ moles of lipid was added, and the mixture was sonicated in a bath sonicator (Laboratory Supply Co., Hicksville, NY) for 20 min. The resulting liposomes have an approximate mean diameter of 100 \pm 25 nm. The following 20 liposome preparations were used: pure DOTMA, DOTMA:Cholesterol in a 2 to 1 molar ratio, pure L-PE or L-PE:CEBA in a 6 to 4 molar ratio.

25 Cellular transfection: For transfection of cells, 2 \times 10⁶ cells in 4 ml of serum-free medium were plated in 100 mm plastic petri dishes (Falcon, Oxnard, CA). The plasmid DNA-liposome complex was prepared by first adding 1) DNA and then 2), liposomes and mixing gently. The complex was then suspended in 1 ml of serum-free medium and added to the cells. Four hours later, the cells were 30 washed twice, resuspended in 10 ml of serum-containing medium, and subsequently harvested, 44 hours later. Just prior to harvesting, the cells were washed 2 times, and the plates were then scraped with a rubber policeman. The cells were centrifugated at 1,000 \times g for 5 min, and 35 0.135 ml of 0.25 M Tris buffer pH 7.5, 5 mM EDTA was

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added to each pellet. The cells were freeze-thawed 3x, heated at 65°C for 10 min, and spun at 12,500 x g for 10 min. The supernatant was assayed for protein and 20 µg of supernatant protein per sample was used to measure CAT 5 activity, as described in Example 4.

Results: The results demonstrate the ability of cationic liposomes to mediate high level transfection of two different human small cell lung cancer lines (H69 and H82) and a squamous cell lung cancer line (H520). All 10 three lines were very efficiently transfected by RSV-CAT when complexed to 3 different cationic liposome formulations (Figure 21). These human cell lines were transfected either as, or more efficiently than rodent tumor cell lines transfected under comparable conditions.

15

Example 12

Transfection of lung cancers in mice by intravenous injection of cationic lipid carrier:DNA complexes

Mouse: C57/black 6, female, 25 grams.

Cancer: B16, mouse melanoma line which is highly 20 metastatic to lung. The cell line was grown in RPMI 1640 medium supplemented with 5% fetal calf serum.

Lipid carrier: DOTAP:Cholesterol=1.1, 10mM in 5% dextrose in water.

25 Plasmid: pZN20.

Ratio: Cationic lipid:DNA=6 nmoles:1 µg, 100 µg in 200 µl of 5% dextrose in water were injected by tail vein into each mouse.

Inoculation of cancer cell line into mice and 30 administration of CAT expression plasmid-cationic lipid carrier complexes:

B16 cells were trypsinized off the plates and 50,000 cells were inoculated into each mouse by

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intravenous injection into the tail vein. Two weeks after injection, cationic lipid carrier-DNA complexes were injected via tail vein. Lungs were collected 48 hours postinjection, infused with 33% O.C.T., frozen in a dry ice-ethanol bath, cryosectioned, and processed for immunohistochemical analysis to detect intracellular CAT protein.

Immunohistochemical analysis: Procedure:

Organs were removed, appropriately trimmed, 10 embedded in OCT and snap frozen. Frozen tissues were sectioned at 6 μ m, collected onto glass slides, fixed for 10 minutes in 4°C acetone and then placed in 0.2% Triton X-100 to permeabilize membranes. Sections were then incubated for 12-48 hours with the monoclonal anti-CAT 15 antibody or isotype negative control antibody at the appropriate dilution. After washing, a biotinylated antibody directed against the primary antibody (Zymed, S. San Francisco) was added for a minimum of 60 minutes, followed by application of the streptavidin-peroxidase 20 complex (Zymed) for 60 minutes and then application of the substrate-chromogen appropriate for the enzyme label used. Slides can then be counter-stained in dilute hematoxylin or left unstained and coverslipped in water-soluble mounting media for examination.

25 Results:

Immunohistochemical analysis are shown in Figure 8 and demonstrate that B-16 melanoma lung tumors (8A, indicated by arrows) as well as intravascular tumor emboli (8B, indicated by arrows) are efficiently 30 transfected after iv injection of DNA-lipid carrier complexes. Both lung tumors and intravascular tumor emboli show intense staining, indicating efficient, a generalized transfection *in vivo*. Tumor bearing mice, which did not receive an injection of DNA-lipid carrier 35 complexes, show no CAT activity in the lung or in any

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lung tumor cells (8C). The ability to transfect tumors present within mammalian hosts by systemic administration of a cloned gene has not previously been demonstrated.

Example 13

5 Demonstration of High Level CAT Gene Expression in
Multiple
Tissues After Intravenous (iv) Injection of pZN27 Alone,
or
pZN27:DDAB:Cholesterol SUV Complexes.

10 Lipid carrier: DDAB:Cholesterol=1:1, stock 10mM in 5% dextrose. After addition of 5% dextrose to the dried lipid film, the SUV were prepared by sonication in a bath sonicator for 20 minutes.

15 Plasmid: pZN27.

DNA:Lipid carrier Ratio: Cationic lipid:plasmid DNA = 5 nanomoles:1 μ g DNA.

DNA dose:

20 pZN27 alone: Individual mice received 500 μ g, 1 mg, 2 mg, or 500 μ g, followed 4 hours later by a second 500 μ g dose, respectively of pZN27 in 200 μ l 5% dextrose in water by tail vein injection.

25 pZN27 complexed to lipid carriers: 100 μ g plasmid DNA complexed to 500 nanomoles to DDAB:Cholesterol SUV lipid carriers in 200 μ l 5% dextrose in water was injected by tail vein per mouse.

Mice: ICR, female, 25 grams.

30 Tissue extraction procedure: Each organ was homogenized in 0.3 ml of 0.25 M Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 5 mM EDTA, and the resulting extract was centrifuged and the supernatant was then subjected to 3 cycles of freeze-thaw and then heated to 65°C for 20 min.

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CAT assay procedure: The protein concentration of each tissue extract was quantitated using a Coomassie Blue-based protein assay (BioRad, Richmond), and same amount of total protein from each tissue extract was added in 5 the CAT assay, together with 10 μ l of 20 mM acetyl CoA+12 μ l of ^{14}C -chloramphenicol (25 $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{ml}$, 55 mCi/mmole , Amersham)), at 37°C for 13 hrs.

Results:

Significant levels of CAT gene expression were 10 seen in each of the 6 different tissues assayed (lung, heart, liver, kidney, spleen, and lymph nodes) after injection of either pZN27 alone, or pZN27 complexed to DDAB:Cholesterol lipid carriers. Expression of a 15 transgene in multiple tissues *in vivo* after systemic injection of a naked expression plasmid previously has not been demonstrated.

Example 14

Induction of High Levels of Human Interleukin-2 in the Spleen

20 and Lymph nodes of Mice by Intravenous Injection of Cationic

Lipid carriers Complexed to a CMV-Interleukin-2 Gene

Mouse: C57/black 6, female, 25 grams.

25 Cancer: B16, mouse melanoma line which is highly metastatic to lung. The cell line was grown in RPMI-1640, 5% fetal calf serum.

Lipid carrier: DDAB:Cholesterol=1.1, 10 mM in 5% dextrose in water.

30 Plasmid: pZN46 (the HCMV promoter enhancer fused to the human interleukin-2 coding sequence).

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Ratio: Cationic lipid:DNA=5 nmoles:1 μ g
DNA in 200 μ l of 5% dextrose in
water administered per injection.

Inoculation of the tumor cell line into mice and

5 administration of a human interleukin-2 expression
plasmid-cationic lipid carrier complexes:

B16 cells were trypsinized off the plates, and 50,000 cells were inoculated into each mouse by intravenous injection into the tail vein. Starting 2 10 days after the tumor cell injection, cationic lipid carrier-DNA complexes were injected via tail vein 2 times per week for a total of 2 weeks. The animals were sacrificed 2 weeks post tumor cell injection, the spleen and lymph nodes were removed, rendered into single cell 15 suspensions using a tissue grinder, and then cultured for 24 hours in RPMI-1640, 10% fetal calf serum in 100 mm plastic dishes in a 37°C incubator. After 24 hours the supernatant was collected and the concentration of human interleukin-2 in the supernatant was determined using a 20 human IL-2 ELISA.

Results:

One hundred picograms of human IL-2/ml per ml was present in the spleen cell supernatant and 91 pg/ml IL-2 was present in the lymph node cell supernatant from the 25 mouse which was injected with the pZN46-DDAB:Cholesterol lipid carrier complexes. No human IL-2 was detected in either spleen cell or lymph node cell supernatants derived from mice which received an identical injection of B-16 melanoma cells, but which did not receive the 30 pZN46-DDAB:Cholesterol lipid carrier complexes. Thus, substituting the human IL-2 gene coding region for the CAT gene coding region in a HCMV expression plasmid resulted in high level expression of the IL-2 gene *in vivo* and the production of large amounts of a secreted 35 human IL-2 protein in a mouse.

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Example 15

Induction of High Level Expression of the Human CFTR gene

in Mice Treated by iv Administration of pZN32:Cationic

5 Lipid carrier Complexes

Mice: ICR female, 25 grams

Lipid carrier: DDAB:Cholesterol=1:1 SUV, 10 mM in 5% dextrose in water

plasmid: pZN32 (the HCMV promoter enhancer fused to the 10 human CFTR coding sequence)

Ratio: Cationic lipid:DNA=5 nmoles:1 μ g plasmid DNA.

Dose: A total of 100 μ g of plasmid DNA in 200 μ l of 5% dextrose in water administered per iv tail vein injection.

15 Procedure:

Forty-eight hours after injection the mice were sacrificed, the lungs were removed and trimmed, embedded in OCT, and snap frozen. Frozen tissues were sectioned at 6 μ m, collected onto glass slides, and the fixed for 20 10 minutes in 4% acetone. Immunolocalization of CFTR was then performed using the affinity purified rabbit polyclonal anti-CFTR antibody, α -1468 (Cohn, et al., (1991) *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm.* 181:36-43). The procedure used was identical to the one described in 25 Marino et al., (1991) *J. Clin. Invest.* 88:712 with the following variation. After washing, a biotinylated antibody directed against the rabbit polyclonal antibody (Zymed) was added for 60 minutes, followed by application of the streptavidin phosphatase complex (Zymed) for 60 30 minutes and then application of the substrate-chromogen. Slides were then coverslipped in water-soluble mounting media for examination.

Results:

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Photomicrographs of frozen sections (viewed at different magnifications) of mouse lung 48 hours following iv injection to pZN32-DDAB:Cholesterol (1:1) liposome complexes and lung from untreated control are 5 shown in Figures 12A-E. As demonstrated by the intense staining with the polyclonal anti-CFTR antibody, α -1468, the overwhelming majority of the airways were transfected with the human CFTR gene. In 12A, 12C and 12E. by visual inspection, essentially all the cells in 10 transfected airways stain positively, demonstrating that the overwhelming majority of airway cells are transfected with the human CFTR gene *in vivo* with a single iv dose of pZN32 complexed to DDAB-cholesterol (1:1) liposome-treated and control animals could not be distinguished 15 histologically. Significant expression of the human CFTR gene is present in at least 50% of all the airways and at least 50% of all of the airway lining cells (by visual inspection) in mouse lungs for at least 60 days following a single iv dose of pZN32 complexed to DDAB-Cholesterol 20 (1:1) liposomes. Frozen sections of mouse lungs from control animals (12B and 12D) do not show any detectable staining for CFTR, confirming that all the CFTR expression present in 12A, 12C and 12E is due to transfection of lung cells with the human CFTR gene.

25 As shown by the above results, a single iv dose of an expression construct, containing a gene of interest, complexed to cationic liposomes transfets the majority of the cells lining the conducting airways of the lung, the gene product is present in the lung for at least 60 30 days, the expression appears to be airway cell-specific, and there is no histological evidence of damage following exposure. This is important because liposomes are well tolerated and non-immunogenic. Furthermore, the appearance, behavior, and life span of mice treated with 35 intravenously injected pZN32:DDAB-Cholesterol (1:1)

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complexed appear normal, and are indistinguishable from untreated, normal control animals. This lack of toxicity, as demonstrated by analysis of appearance, behavior, life span and detailed histologic analysis of a 5 wide variety of tissues from these animals demonstrates the lack of toxicity produced by *in vivo* delivery of pZN32-DDAB:Cholesterol complexes. Additionally, the effects of repeated *iv* administration of the DNA/liposome complexes is effective and is non-toxic. The cationic 10 liposome-mediated DNA delivery by *iv* injection provides high level, lung-specific transgene expression *in vivo*.

Example 16

Demonstration of CAT Gene Expression in Lung and Liver
After Intravenous Injection of Different CAT gene-

15 Containing Plasmids

Lipid carrier: DDAB:Cholesterol = 1:1, stock 5mM in 5% dextrose in water.

Plasmids: Plasmids are indicated below.

DNA-Lipid carrier Ratio: Cationic lipid: plasmid DNA = 1 20 nanomole: 1 μ g

Dose: 100 μ l DNA in 200 μ l volume injected intravenously by tail vein injection.

Mice: ICR, female, 25 g

Procedure: The animals were sacrificed 24 hours after 25 injection. The tissue extraction procedure and CAT assay were as described in Example 4 except that the CAT assay was incubated for 3 hr at 37°C and 2.0 mM paraoxon (Lai, et al., (1988) *Carcinogenesis* 9:1295-1302) was added to the liver samples. The results are shown in Figure 15. 30 Lanes 1-12 are lung samples, lanes 13-24 are liver samples. Lanes 1, 2, 13, 14 are pZN51; lanes 3, 4, 15, 16 are pZN60; lanes 5, 6, 17, 18 are pZN61; lanes 7, 8,

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19, 20 are pZN62; lanes 9, 10, 21, 22 are pZN63; and
lanes 11, 12, 23, 24 are pZN27.

Results:

5 pZN51, which does not contain an intron, is
expressed as well as, or better than, plasmids containing
an intron either 3' or 5' to the coding sequence.

Example 17

10 Generalized versus tissue and cell type-specific CAT gene
expression produced by iv injection of CMV-CAT-liposome
or CFTR-CAT-liposome complexes, respectively.

Mouse: ICR female, 25 grams.

Liposome: DDAB:Cholesterol=1:1 SUV, 10mM in 5% dextrose
in water.

15 Plasmid: 1) pZN27 or 2) pBE3.8CAT (see Chou et al.,
(1991) *J. Biol Chem* 266:24471-24476, for
construction).

20 Experimental conditions: Mice in groups of 3 received
either (a), no treatment, or (b), a single iv tail vein
injection of DDAB:Cholesterol liposomes complexed to 100
μg of) a 3.8 kb sequence of the 5' upstream region of the
human CFTR gene fused to the CAT gene (pBE3.8CAT) or (c)
pZN27. Mice were sacrificed 24 hours later and CAT
activity assayed in lung, liver, spleen, lymph nodes,
kidney and heart, as described in Example 4.
25 Immunohistochemical analysis of lung section from each of
the groups was performed as described in Example 3.

Results:

30 Immunohistochemical staining of frozen lung
sections from these mice showed that iv injection of CMV-
CAT-liposome complexes produced high levels of red
staining, indicating CAT gene expression in endothelial,
alveolar and airway cells within the lung (16A). In
contrast, CFTR-CAT-liposome complexes produced CAT gene

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expression primarily localized in airway epithelial cells (16B). This approximates the pattern of endogenous CFTR gene expression in rat lung, as determined by *in situ* hybridization studies (Trezise and Buchwald, (1991)

5 *Nature* 353:434-437. A lung section from an uninjected mouse does not show red staining, indicating that CAT gene expression is present only in transfected cells (Fig. 16C). Figure 16D is a high magnification photomicrograph of alveoli from a CMV-CAT treated mouse

10 and shows a high level of CAT gene expression in both alveolar cells and lung endothelial cells. A high magnification photomicrograph of alveoli from CFTR-CAT treated mice (Figure 16E) shows no significant CAT gene expression in either alveolar or endothelial cells,

15 demonstrating that the CFTR promoter targets transgene expression to airway epithelial cells. This is the first demonstration that transgenes can be expressed within mouse lung in either a generalized or cell type-specific fashion depending on the regulatory element used, after

20 iv injection.

CAT assay demonstrated that CMV-CAT produced significant CAT gene expression in the lung, liver, heart, spleen, lymph nodes and kidney, whereas CFTR-CAT produced lung-specific gene expression. Photographs of

25 autoradiographic analysis of each tissue are shown in Figure 16 (F-K). Thus, the CMV promoter induces expression of a linked gene in a wide range of tissues, whereas the 5' flanking region of the human CFTR gene directs tissue-specific transgene expression after iv,

30 liposome-based administration.

Example 18

Comparison of transfection focusing on iv injection of plasmid

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alone with iv injection of plasmid complexed to a lipid carrier.

Demonstration of widespread, high level CAT gene expression in in vivo after intravenous (iv) injection of 5 pZN27 alone.

Plasmid: pZN27.

DNA:Liposome Ratio: Plasmid DNA alone, without liposomes, was injected.

DNA dose: 1 mg plasmid DNA in 200 μ l 5% dextrose 10 in water was injected times 2 over a 4 hour period by tail vein per mouse. Mice were sacrificed 24 hours later and 17 different tissues were assayed for CAT gene activity.

Mice: ICR, female, 25 grams.

15 Tissue extraction procedure: Each organ was homogenized in 0.3 ml of 0.25 M Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 5 mM EDTA, and the resulting extract was centrifuged and then subjected to 3 cycles of freeze-thaw and then treated to 65°C for 20 min.

20 CAT assay procedure: The protein concentration of each tissue extract was quantitated using a ninhydrin-based protein assay (BioRad, Richmond), and the same amount of total protein from each tissue extract was added in the CAT assay, together with 10 μ l of 20 mM 25 acetyl CoA+12 μ l of 14 C-chloramphenicol (25 μ Ci/ml, 55 mCi/mmol, Amersham), at 37°C for 13 hrs.

30 Results: An autoradiograph of this experiment is shown in 19A. Compared to control levels (lane 1), iv injection of pZN27 alone produced highly significant levels of CAT gene expression in the following tissues: lung, thymus, esophagus, heart, liver, spleen, stomach, small intestine, caecum, ovary, vagina, skeletal muscle, pancreas and lymph nodes. Thus, iv injection of the

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pZN27 expression plasmid alone can efficiently transfect a very large and diverse number of tissues in the body.

Demonstration of widespread, high level CAT gene expression in vivo after intravenous (iv) injection of

5 pZN27 complexed to DDAB:Cholesterol (1:1) liposomes.

Plasmid: pZN27.

Liposome: DDAB:Cholesterol=1:1, stock 10 mM in 5% dextrose.

DNA:Liposome Ratio: liposome:plasmid 5 nmoles:1

10 μ g

DNA dose: 100 μ g plasmid DNA in 200 μ l 5% dextrose in water was injected by tail vein per mouse. Mice were sacrificed 24 hours later and 17 different tissues were assayed for CAT gene activity.

15 Mice: ICR, female, 25 grams.

Tissue extraction procedure: Each organ was homogenized in 0.3 ml of 0.25 M Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 5 mM EDTA, and the resulting extract was centrifuged and then subjected to 3 cycles of freeze-thaw and then treated to

20 65°C for 20 min.

CAT assay procedure: The protein concentration of each tissue extract was quantitated using a ninhydrin-based protein assay (BioRad, Richmond), and same amount of total protein from each tissue extract was added in 25 the CAT assay, together with 10 μ l of 20 mM acetyl CoA+12 μ l of 14 C-chloramphenicol (25 μ Ci/ml, 55 mCi/mmmole, Amersham), at 37°C for 13 hrs.

Results: An autoradiograph of this experiment is presented in Figure 19B. Compared to control levels 30 (lane 1), iv injection of pZN27:DDAB:Cholesterol complexes produced high levels of CAT gene expression in the following tissues: lung, thymus, esophagus, heart, liver, spleen, stomach, small intestine, large intestine, caecum, uterus, ovary, vagina, skeletal muscle, pancreas

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and lymph nodes. Thus, iv injection of pZN27:DDAB:Cholesterol complexes can efficiently transfect a very large and diverse number of tissues in the body.

5

Example 19

IV Injection Of GM-CSF Expression Plasmid-Cationic Liposome

Complexes Produces Significant Antitumor Effects.

Mouse: C57/black 6, female, 25 grams.

10 Cancer: B16, mouse melanoma line which is highly metastatic to lung. The cell line was grown in RPMI-1640, 5% fetal calf serum.

15 Liposome: DDAB:Cholesterol=1:1, 10 mM in 5% dextrose in water. Twenty five thousand B-16 cells were injected iv by tail vein.

Plasmid: pZN84 (the HCMV promoter enhancer fused to the murine GM-CSF coding sequence as shown in Figure 17).

20 Ratio: Cationic lipid:DNA=5 nmoles:1 μ g. A total of 100 μ g of plasmid DNA in 200 μ l of 5% dextrose in water administered per injection.

Experimental outline: Mice in groups of eight received a 25 single iv tail vein injection of 2.5×10^4 B-16 melanoma cells. Group 1 received no treatment, group 2 received bi-weekly injections of 100 μ g of pZN84 complexed to DDAB:Cholesterol liposomes, beginning 4 days prior to tumor cell injection and continuing for 2 weeks following 30 tumor injection. All mice were sacrificed 3 weeks following tumor cell injection and surface lung tumor nodules which were black and macroscopic were counted using a dissecting microscope.

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Results:

Control animals had 64.5 ± 19.7 (S.E.M.) nodules per lung. In contrast, the GM-CSF-liposome-treated animals had 11.9 ± 3.6 tumor nodules per lung ($p < 0.01$ versus the control group, as assessed by Student's t test). Thus, iv injection of a cytokine gene produced a highly significant antitumor effect. This is the first demonstration that iv injection of a gene can produce anti-tumor activity *in vivo*.

10.

Example 20

Prolonged, high level murine GM-CSF gene expression in vivo

after intravenous (iv) injection of pZN84 complexed to DDAB:Cholesterol (1:1) liposomes into goats.

15 Animals: Goats: female, 110 pounds

Plasmid: pZN84

Liposome: DDAB:Cholesterol=1:1, stock 10mM in 5% dextrose

DNA:Liposome Ratio: Liposome:plasmid=5:1

20 DNA dose: 1.0 mg plasmid DNA in 5 ml 5% dextrose in water was injected by jugular vein per goat.

Blood Sampling: Blood was drawn just prior to injection of pZN84 liposome complexes, and at 12, 24, 48, 72, 168 and 840 hours post-injection.

25 Murine GM-CSF ELISA assay procedure: Murine GM-CSF was measured in these serum samples using a commercial murine GM-CSF ELISA kit provided by Endogen. There is no cross reactivity between goat and murine GM-CSF by ELISA.

Results: As shown in Figures 22 and 23 (Goats A, B and C), as compared to control levels, iv injection of pZN84:DDAB:Cholesterol complexes produced high sustained circulating levels of mouse GM-CSF protein for at least 168 hours following injection. However, by 840 hrs (35 days) GM-CSF levels were substantially reduced (Figure .

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27, Goat A). No mouse GM-CSF protein was detected in the circulation of a goat which received 1 mg of the CAT gene (pZN51) complexed to DDAB:Cholesterol liposomes by the identical iv injection protocol. The goat receiving the 5 CAT gene did express CAT antigen on the majority of its circulating white blood cells at 24 hours after injection, as determined by immunostaining for CAT antigen. No CAT antigen was detected in the white blood cells of the goats which were injected with GM-CSF gene-10 liposome complexes. Thus, iv injection of pZN84:DDAB:Cholesterol complexes can produce high level expression of the murine GM-CSF gene for prolonged periods in goats. IV injection of pZN51:DDAB:Cholesterol complexes can produce high levels of the CAT gene product 15 in the majority of all circulating white blood cells in goats.

Example 21

Influence of liposome-GM-CSF plasmid complex on the course of

20 experimental viral pneumonia in mice.

Endogenous cytokines are believed to be included in the host response to a viral infection. It is therefore of interest to determine whether increased expression of a single cytokine, GM-CSF would influence 25 the time course of viral pneumonia. The effect of delivering the murine GM-CSF plasmid-liposome complex via two different routes on the host response to a Sendai virus challenge is tested. The plasmid-liposome complex is delivered iv to one group of mice, and intranasally 30 (in) to a second group. Dose, time of delivery, virus challenge dose and endpoints are the same for both groups. Dose of plasmid-liposome complex is 100

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μg/mouse/dose. Dosing for both protocols occurs on the following scale:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Initial PL* dose</u>	<u>2nd PL dose Virus</u>
<u>challenge</u>	<u>Endpoints</u>	
5 IV Route	day-3	day 0
days 3, 7, 10		day 0
IN Route	day-3	day 0
days 3, 7, 10		day 0

*PL - plasmid-liposome

10 Each experimental group consists of the following:
murine GM-CSF plasmid-liposome + virus: 3
mice

CAT plasmid-liposome + virus: 3 mice
Untreated + virus: 3 mice

15 This results in 9 mice per timepoint (27 total for each experiment, 54 total mice). All animal procedures are performed via NIH and AAAI.AC guidelines including use of appropriate analgesia.

20 Virus challenge is administered intranasally with Sendai virus strain 771076, a strain known to be pathogenic in mice. Endpoints include the following (these have been shown to useful endpoints for Sendai pneumonia):

1. lung weight vs. body weight and brain weight
2. lung histopathology
3. quantitative virus recovery
4. Sendai specific antibody response
5. lung GM-CSF
6. lung TNF

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Example 22

High level expression of the CAT gene in mouse brain produced by injection of DNA alone or DNA-cationic liposome complexes directly into the central nervous system.

Mice: ICR, female, 25 grams

Plasmid: pCIS-CAT

Liposome: DOTMA:DOPE (1:1)

10 For each mouse injected, 2.5 μ g DNA was diluted in 5% dextrose, then mixed with liposomes diluted to the same volume in 5% dextrose. Five microliters were injected stereotactically into the right ventricle of each mouse.

Ratio: Plasmid:lipid = 1:0 (1 mg DNA: 0

15 μ moles DOTMA)

Plasmid:lipid = 1:1 (1 mg DNA: 1 μ moles DOTMA)

Plasmid:lipid = 1:3 (1 mg DNA: 3 μ moles DOTMA)

20 Plasmid:lipid = 1:4 (1 mg DNA: 4 μ moles DOTMA)

Plasmid:lipid = 1:6 (1 mg DNA: 6 μ moles DOTMA)

Mice were sacrificed 48 hr. post injection.

25 Brains were removed and separated into left and right hemispheres. Each hemisphere was homogenized in 250 μ l 0.25 M Tris pH 7.8, 5 mM EDTA followed by three cycles of freeze-thaw then 10 min. at 65°C.

The amounts of extracts used for CAT assay were 30 normalized to protein levels. 0.3 ml of 14 C-chloramphenicol was used for each assay. Assays were carried out at 37°C overnight. The reaction products were separated on TLC plate and exposed to film, as described in Example 4.

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Results: These results demonstrate that high level expression of a heterologous gene can be produced throughout the brain by injection of DNA-liposome complexes (at appropriate ratios) directly into the 5 central nervous system. They also demonstrate that injection of an expression plasmid alone can produce significant transgene expression in the brain. The results are shown in Figure 20.

Example 23

10 Demonstration of CAT gene expression in the lung after intravenous (iv) injection of pRSV-CAT:L-PE:CEBA complexes.

Lipid carrier: L-PE:CEBA=1:1, stock 20 mM in lipid carrier buffer.

15 Plasmid: pRSV-CAT.

DNA:Lipid carrier Ratio: Lipid carrier:plasmid=1 nanomole cationic lipid: 1 μ g plasmid DNA.

DNA dose: 100 μ g plasmid DNA in 200 μ l 5% dextrose in water was injected by tail vein per mouse.

20 Mice: Balb/c, female, 25 grams.

Tissue extraction procedure: Forty eight hours after tail vein injection, the animals were sacrificed, whole lung was homogenized in 1ml of 0.25M Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 5mM EDTA, 80 μ g/ml PMSF and the resulting extract 25 was centrifuged and then the supernatant was subjected to 3 cycles of freeze-thaw and then heated to 65°C for 20 min..

CAT assay procedure: 100 μ l of extract+10 μ l of 20 mM acetyl CoA+4 μ l of 14 C-chloramphenicol (25 μ Ci/ml, 30 55 mCi/mmol, Amersham) were incubated together at 37°C for 6 hr. At 3 hours, an additional 10 μ l of acetyl CoA was added.

Results:

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This experiment showed that a significant level of CAT activity (indicative of expression of the transgene) was present in the lung of the animal injected with lipid carrier:DNA complexes, but not present in the lungs from 5 control animals.

Example 24

Demonstration of CAT gene expression in multiple tissues after intravenous (iv) injection of pZN20-CAT:DDAB:DOPE complexes.

10 Lipid carrier: DDAB:DOPE=1:1, stock 10mM in 5% dextrose.

Plasmid: pZN20.

DNA:Lipid carrier Ratio: Lipid carrier:plasmid=(A) 3 nmole cationic lipid:

15 1 μ g plasmid DNA (SUV). (B) 6 nmole cationic lipid: 1 μ g plasmid DNA (MLV).

DNA dose: 100 μ g plasmid DNA in 200 μ l 5% dextrose in water was injected by tail vein per mouse. Three mice each received this dose of MLV:pZN20 and 3 mice each this dose of SUV:pZN20.

20 Tissue extraction procedure: Each organ was homogenized in 0.3 ml of 0.25 M Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 5 mM EDTA, and the resulting extract was centrifuged and then the supernatant was subjected to 3 cycles of freeze-thaw 25 and then heated to 65°C for 20 min..

CAT assay procedure: The protein concentration of each tissue extract was quantitated using a Coomassie Blue-based protein assay (BioRad, Richmond, CA), and the same amount of total protein from each tissue extract was 30 added in the CAT assay, together with 10 μ l of 20 mM acetyl CoA+12 μ l of 14 C-chloramphenicol (25 μ Ci/ml, 55 mCi/mmol, Amersham), at 37°C for 13 hrs.

Results:

This experiment demonstrated that iv injection of pZN20:DDAB:DOPE complexes gave significant levels of CAT gene expression in each of 6 different tissues including 5 lung, heart, liver, spleen, kidney and lymph nodes. Furthermore, MLV lipid carriers mediated equal or higher levels of in vivo transgene expression than did SUV lipid carriers composed of the same lipids.

Example 25Production of Vaccines

10 The subject invention may find general utility in the production of vaccine, in vivo, for a variety of diseases. It has been shown that chimeric, genetically-engineered proteins of antigen fragments linked to 15 granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF), augment antigen presentation and increase immune response to the antigen when injected in vivo (Tao and Levy, (1993) *Nature* 362:755-758. Thus a nucleic acid sequence coding for a particular antigen may be fused to 20 the nucleic acid coding for GM-CSF and expressed in appropriate cells in vivo using this invention. This approach could dramatically improve the control of proliferation of malignant cells in the treatment of cancer. Other uses would include in vivo vaccine 25 production against a variety of viral and other infectious diseases, particularly those diseases in which an immune response has been unsuccessful or weak by conventional vaccine strategies. Of particular interest would be those diseases, such as HIV, which are 30 characterized by proteins with hypervariable domains. Nucleic acid sequences encoding a variety of possible hypervariable domain sequences could be fused to GM-CSF and expressed simultaneously in vivo to elicit an immune response against many different strains of the virus.

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Example 26

Treatment of Tumor Proliferation

Nucleic acid sequences such as those coding for protein 53 may be useful in treating tumor proliferation.

- 5 Sequences coding for the tumor suppressor protein p53 may be expressed intracellularly *in vivo* using appropriate expression vector-lipid complexes. Such complexes can be conveniently targeted to tumor cells by appropriate antibodies or ligands conjugated to the lipid complexes.
- 10 Initial information regarding transfection of cells is developed using cultured cells, such as the tumor cell line K562. Once p53 gene expression is verified in K562 cells and the optimal vector have been identified, the following *in vivo* anti-tumor experiment is conducted.
- 15 SCID mice receive approximately 25 million K562 cells per mouse by intraperitoneal injection. Approximately three (3) weeks after injection, tumor-bearing mice in groups of ten (10) receive the following: no treatment/control group; p53 vector liposome complexes by intravenous injection; p53 vector liposome complexes by intraperitoneal injection; reported gene vector liposome complexes. The anti-tumor effects of the expression of p53 is then be assessed based upon survival of the mice.
- 20

Example 27

- 25 Erythropoiesis, the production of red blood cells, can cause continuously throughout the life span to offset cell destruction. Erythropoiesis is a very precisely controlled physiological mechanism and having sufficient numbers of red blood cells to be available in the blood
- 30 for proper tissue oxygenation, but not so many that the cells would impede circulation. The formation of red blood cells occurs in the bone marrow and is under the control of the hormone erythropoietin. Because of erythropoietin is essential in the process of red blood

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cells formation, the hormone has potential use for application in both the diagnosis of the treatment of blood disorders characterized by low or defective red blood cell production. Gene therapy using the coding sequence for erythropoietin does find use in a variety of disease states, disorders and states of hematologic irregularity including anemia, in particularly correction of anemia of a type associated with chronic renal failure and the like. A nucleic acid sequence coding for a polypeptide having EPO activity is inserted into an appropriate transcription or expression cassette and introduced into a host mammal as naked DNA or complexed with an appropriate liquid carrier. Monitoring of the production of active EPO polypeptide can be performed as described for example in USPN 4,703,008.

As shown by the above results, a plurality of tissues can be transformed following systemic administration of transgenes, either complexed to a lipid carrier or as naked nucleic acid. Expression of exogenous DNA following intravenous injection of a cationic lipid carrier/exogenous DNA complex into a mammalian host has been shown in multiple tissues, including T lymphocytes, metastatic tumors and intravascular tumor emboli. Expression of exogenous DNA in multiple different tissues, including those of the reticuloendothelial system has been obtained following intravenous injection of an expression plasmid as naked DNA. The ability to transfet T lymphocytes *in vivo* will have a dramatic impact on the treatment of AIDS, cancer, multiple sclerosis, and arthritis. *In vivo* transfection of cardiac endothelial cells will have a dramatic impact on the treatment of heart disease and heart attacks. *In vivo* transfection of lung cells will have a dramatic impact on the treatment of cystic fibrosis, asthma, emphysema and lung cancer. *In vivo* transfection of bone marrow cells will have a dramatic impact on the treatment of cancer, blood diseases and infections.

The *in vivo* gene therapy delivery technology as described above is non-toxic in animals and transgene expression has been shown to last for at least 60 days after a single administration. The transgene does not appear to integrate into host cell DNA at detectable levels *in vivo* as measured by

5 Southern analysis, suggesting that this technique for gene therapy will not cause problems for the host mammal by altering the expression of normal cellular genes activating cancer-causing oncogenes, or turning off cancer-preventing tumor suppressor genes. Additionally, transgene expression after systemic administration of a DNA expression vector alone has been shown; 10 transgene expression was produced in the lung for at least three weeks after a single administration of a DNA expression vector without a carrier system.

Systematic injection of heterologous genes into adult animals can produce very high level transgene expression in a wide range of tissues, and transfect the majority (> 70%) of all cells present in many of these tissues as 15 demonstrated above. In contrast, previous studies attempting direct transfer of heterologous genes into adult animals have reported transfection limited to one or a few tissues, low levels of transgene expression in these tissues and (whenever histochemical analysis was included) transfection limited to less than 1% of the cells present in transfected tissues.

20 In addition to transfecting the majority of all cells present in the lung, using the methods and constructs described above, high level transgene expression has been obtained in a wide variety of other tissues and cell types. These include:

25 Transfection of the majority of all cells present in the spleen and lymph nodes, including transfection of greater than 70% of all the T lymphocytes. The ability to efficiently transfect T lymphocytes *in vivo* permitting for the first time specific molecular approaches to both anti-HIV therapy and to selective modulation of the immune response.

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Efficient transfection of visceral tumors and of intravascular tumor emboli after iv injection of DNA into tumor-bearing hosts. Previously, gene transfer studies involving cancer have been restricted solely to *ex vivo* approaches. Our work now permits direct transfection with transgenes which provide tumor suppressor, anti-oncogene and/or anti-metastases activity within tumors in tumor-bearing hosts.

Transfection of the majority of cardiac vascular endothelial cells, as well as bone marrow-derived hematopoietic cells, including the great majority of blast cells present in the bone marrow, by systemic delivery of heterologous genes. These results create dramatic and new means for controlling ischemic heart disease and hematopoiesis at the molecular level.

Demonstration of the ability to produce high level *in vivo* expression of a variety of biologically important transgenes, as exemplified by human CFTR, IL-2 and GM-CSF.

All publications and patent applications are herein incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each individual publication or patent application was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

The invention now being fully described, it will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that many changes and modifications can be made thereto without departing from the spirit or scope of the appended claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A complex of an expression cassette comprising:
as operably joined components, a transcriptional and translational initiation regulatory region, a nucleic acid sequence of interest, and a transcriptional termination regulatory region, wherein said regulatory regions are functional in the cells of a mammalian host, and optionally, a cationic lipid carrier, and wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest is free of introns.
2. A complex according to claim 1 wherein an intron is positioned 5' to said nucleic acid sequence.
- 10 3. A complex according to claim 1 or 2 wherein 5' to said transcription and translational initiation region is at least one of an enhancer sequence and an intron.
- 15 4. A complex according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said transcriptional initiation regulatory region provides for tissue specific expression.
5. A complex according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said cationic lipid carrier is prepared from one or more lipids selected from the groups consisting of DDAB, DOTMA, DOPE, Cholesterol, and L-PE, DOTAP, and CEBA.
- 20 6. A complex according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest is CFTR, or interleukin 2.
7. A complex according to claim 1 wherein the expression cassette is pCIS-CAT, pZN27, pZN51, pZN32, or pZN46.

8. A complex of a transcription cassette comprising: as operably joined components, a transcriptional initiation region, a nucleic acid sequence of interest, and a transcriptional termination regulatory region, wherein said regulatory regions are functional in the cells of a mammalian host, and
5 optionally a cationic lipid carrier.

9. A complex according to claim 8, wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest is an antisense sequence.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
a complex according to any one of the preceding claims.

10 11. A complex according to any one of claims 1 to 9 or a composition according to claim 10 for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body.

12. A complex or composition for use according to claim 11 wherein the method of treatment comprises the systemic introduction into the
15 body of the complex or composition.

13. Use of an expression cassette as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 or a transcription cassette according to any one of claims 8-9 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of the human or animal body by systemic gene therapy.

20 14. Use of a complex as defined in any one of claims 1 to 9 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of the human or animal body by systemic gene therapy.

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15. A non-human transgenic mammal wherein at least one cell type or tissue in addition to lung or liver contains a recombinant gene sequence introduced systemically into said mammal or an ancestor of said mammal.

5 16. A non-human transgenic mammal according to claim 15 wherein the recombinant gene sequence comprises an expression cassette as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7, or a transcription cassette as defined in any one of claims 8-9.

10 17. A non-human transgenic mammal according to claim 15 or 16 wherein said cell type or tissue is one or more cell type or tissue selected from the group consisting of spleen, lymph node, heart, kidney, bone marrow, and T-lymphocytes.

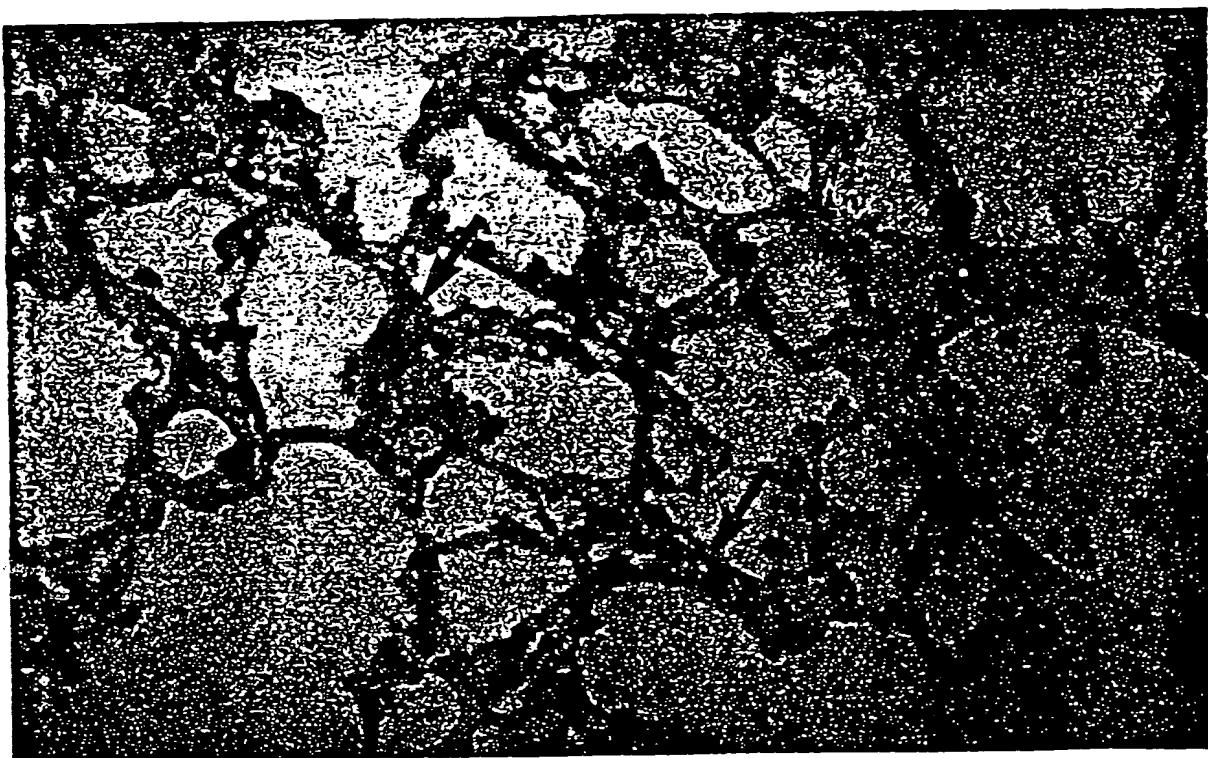


FIGURE 1A

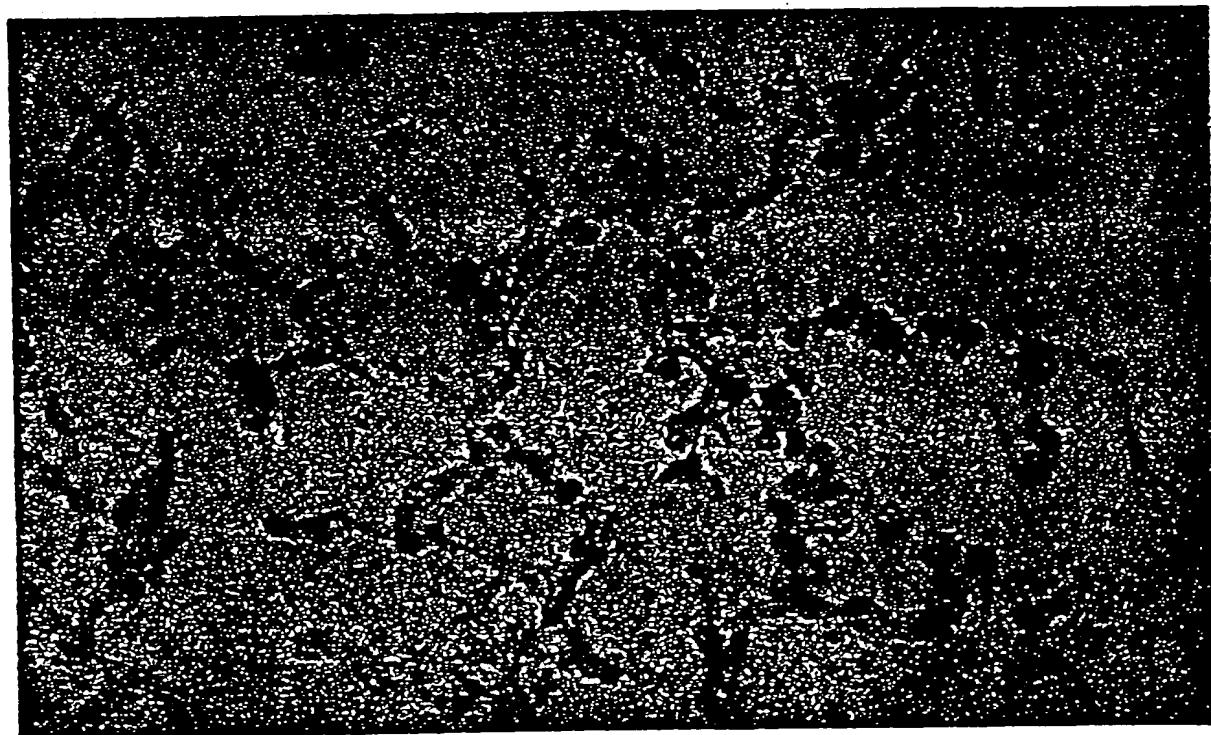
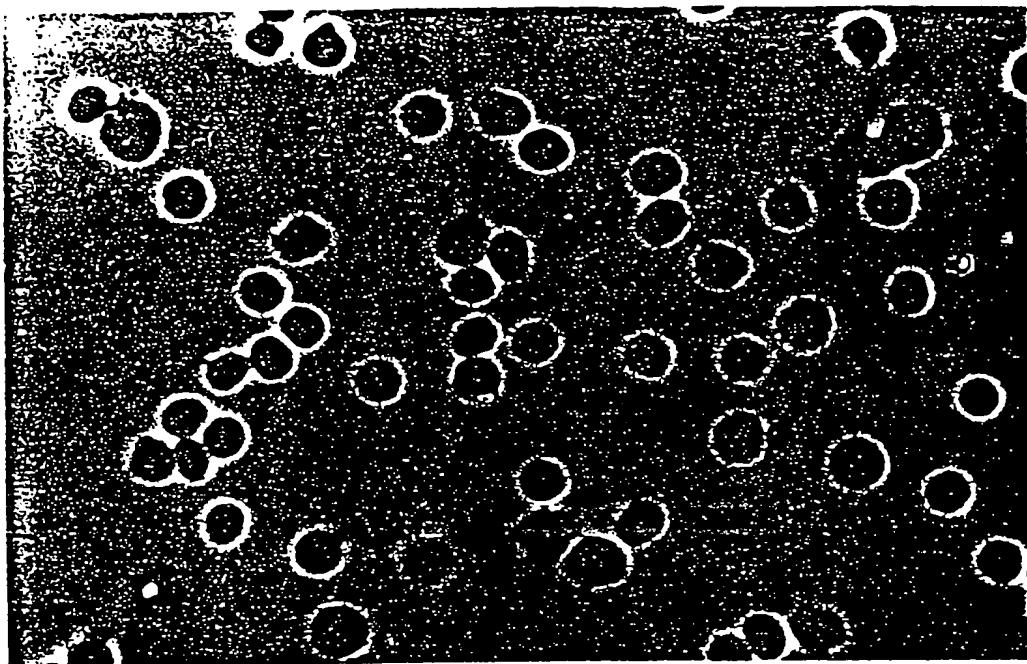


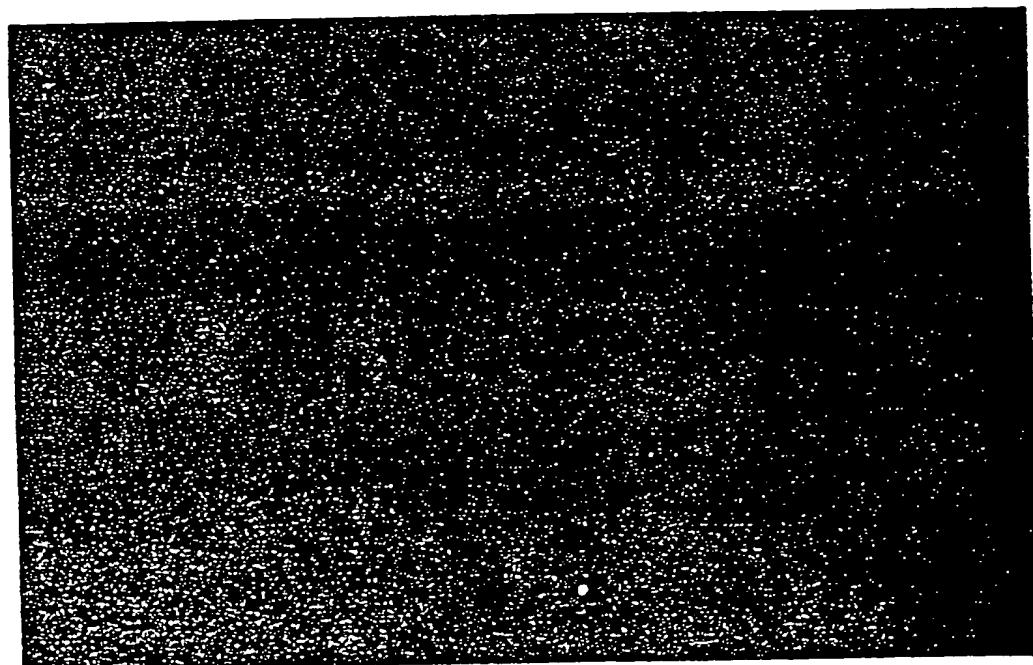
FIGURE 1B

Control



Phase Contrast

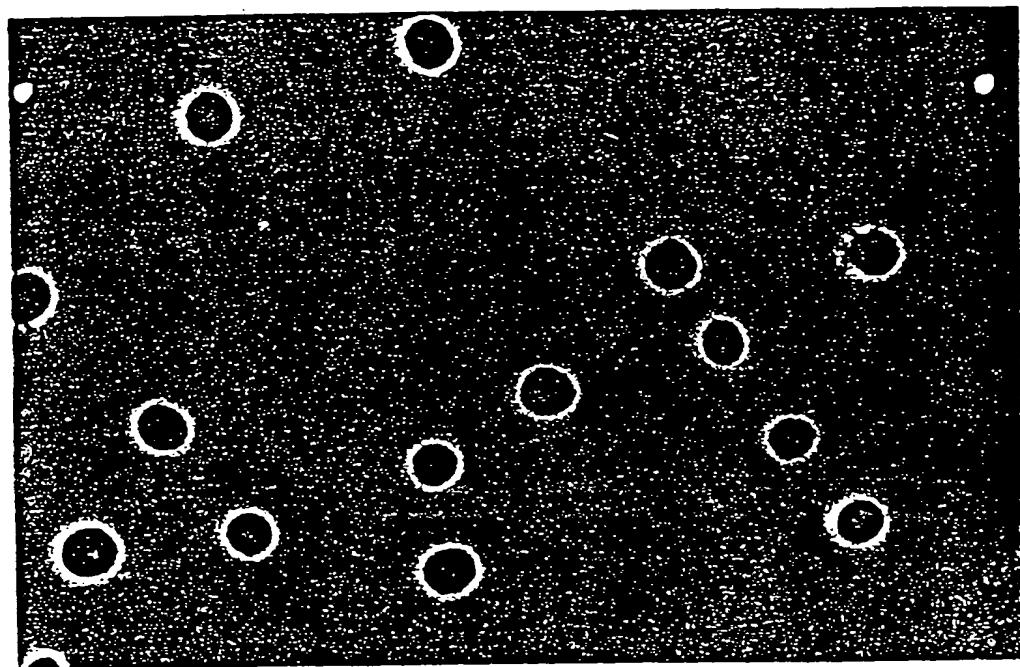
FIGURE 2A



Fluorescent

FIGURE 2B

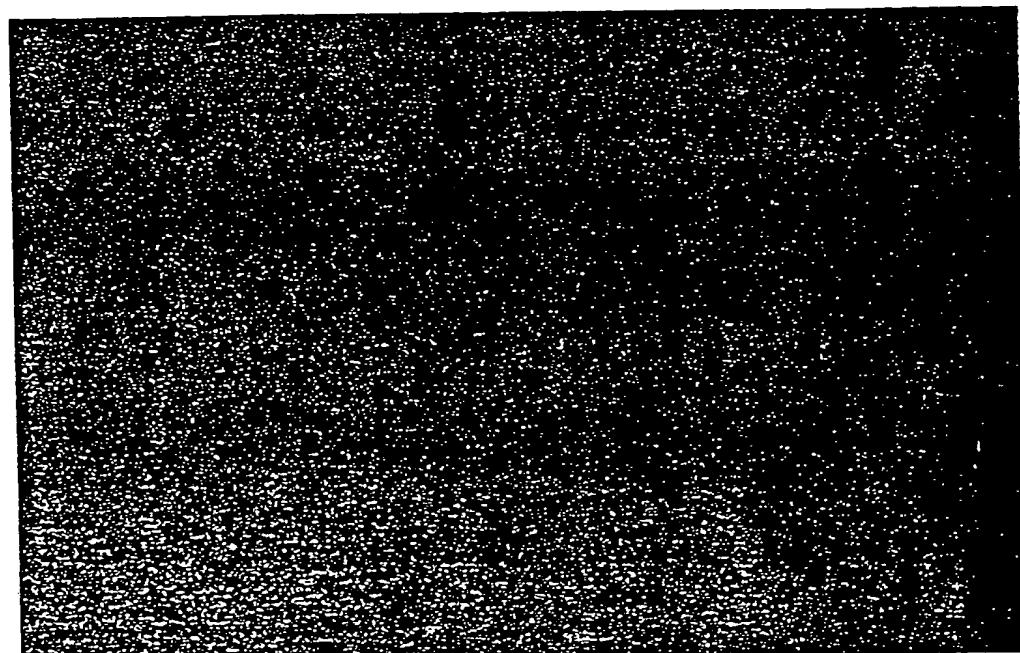
3 / 45



Phase Contrast

FIGURE 2C

Control



Fluorescent

FIGURE 2D

Control

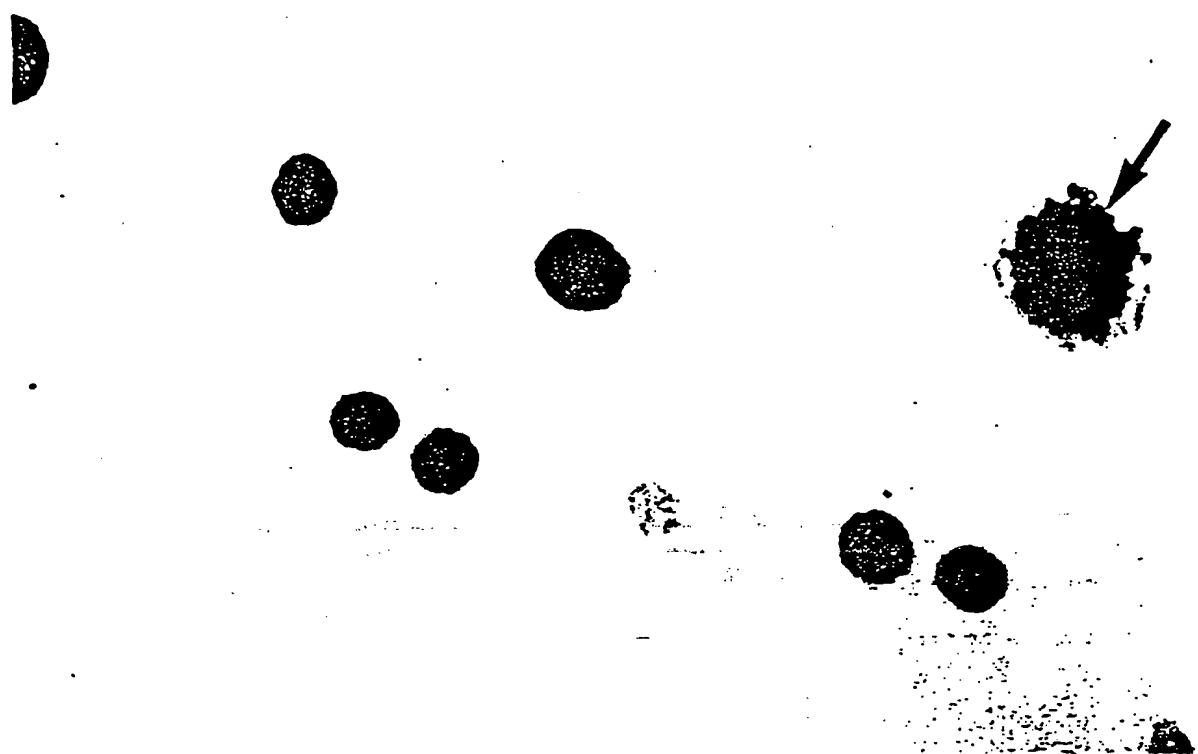


FIGURE 3A

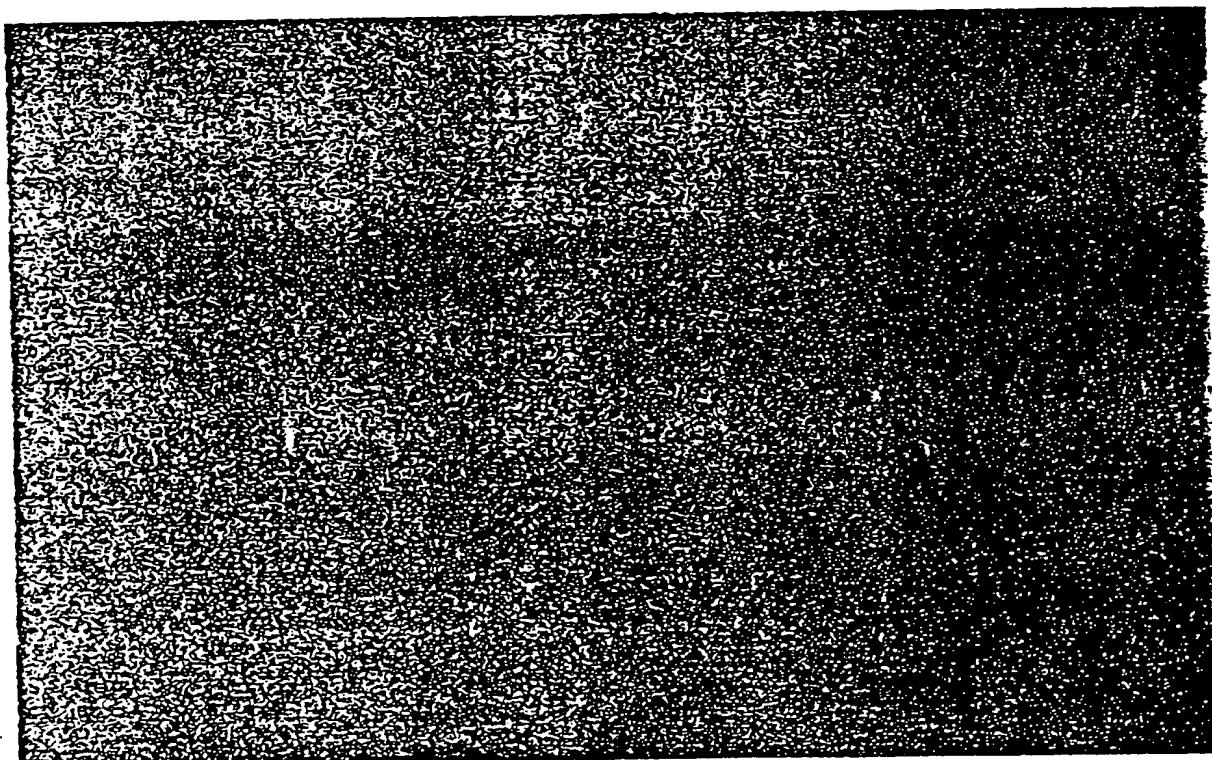
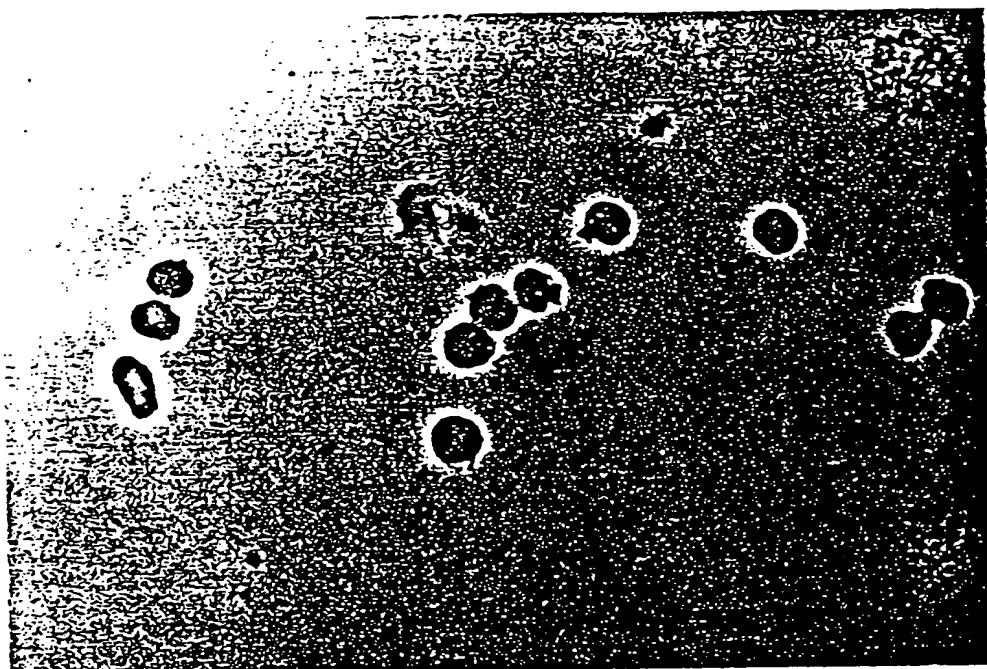


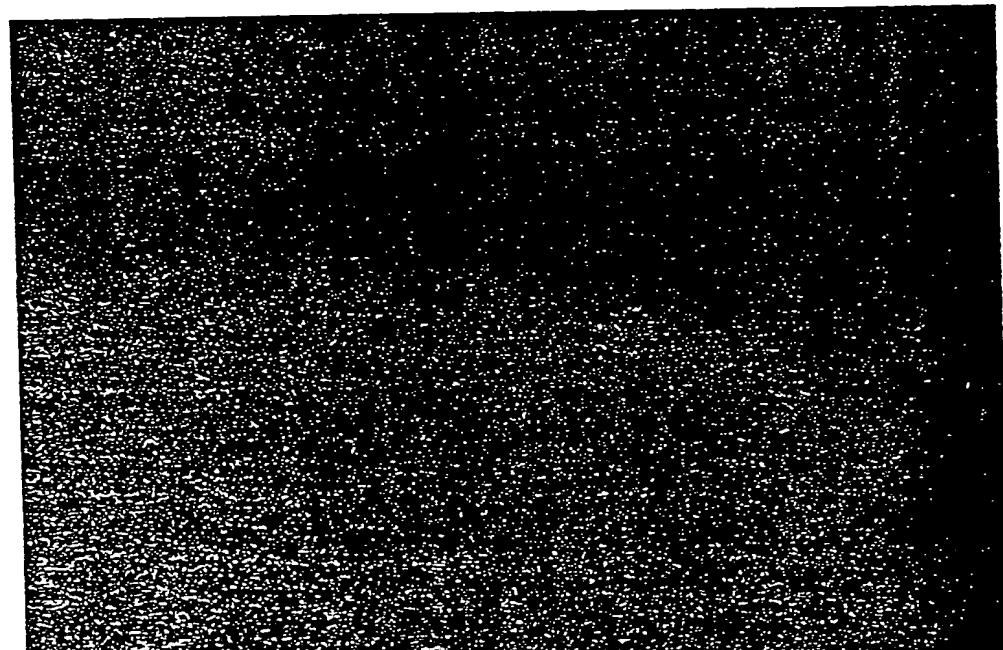
FIGURE 3B

Control



Phase Contrast

FIGURE 4A



Fluorescent

FIGURE 4B

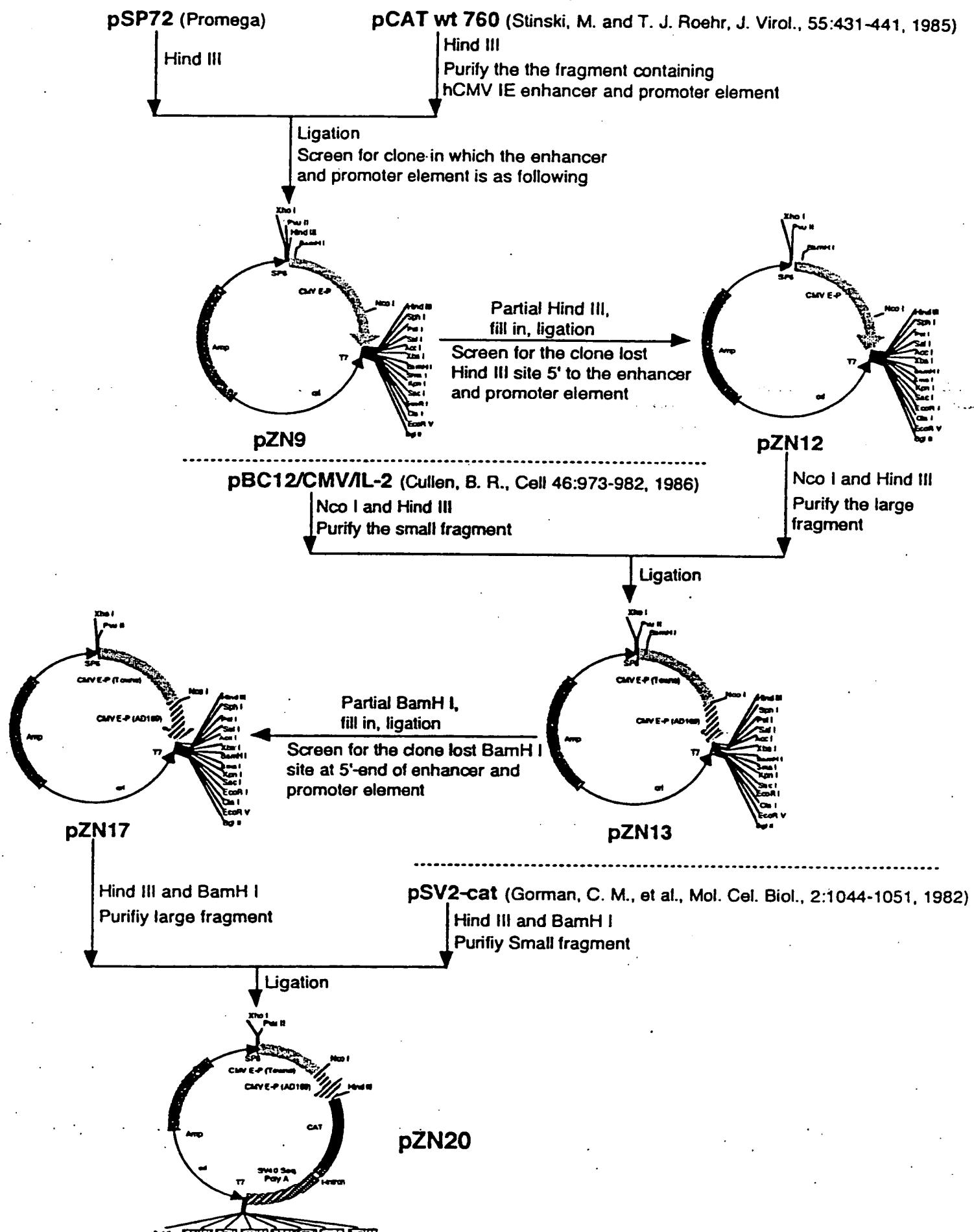


Figure 5

Positions of Restriction Endonucleases sites (unique sites underlined)

Mae II
 Aha II
 Aat II Mae II
 BlnC II Mae III Mae III
 || | |
 ggcgaccgcccagcgaccccccgggttgcgtcaatagtgcgtatgttccatagtaacgccaataggactttccat 80
 cogctggcgggtcgctggggggcaactgcagttactgcatacagaaggatcattgcggatccctgaaaggta
 || | |
 26 39 57
 29 42
 29
 30

Mae II
 Aha II
 Aat II Bgl I Rsa I Nde I
 || | |
 tgacgtcaatgggtggagtatttacggtaactgcccacttggcagttacatcaagtgtatcatatgccaagtccggcccc 160
 actgcagttacccacccataaatgccatttgcgggtgaacgcgtatgttagttcacatagtatacgggtcaggcgggg
 || | |
 82 114 126 141
 82
 83

Mae II Mae I Nla III
 Aha II Sau96 I Rsa I
 Aat II Bae III Bsr I
 || | |
 tattgacgtcaatgacggtaaatggcccgccatgcattatgcccagtacatgaccttacggagtttctacttggcagt 240
 ataactgcgttactgcatttacccggcgatcgtaatacgggtcatgtacttggaaatgcctcaaaaggatgaaccgtca
 || | |
 165 184 203 239
 165 184 206
 166 191 209

Bpu I
 Nla III
 Sty I
 Sec I
 Nco I
 Bsa I Dsa I SfaN I Rsa I Rsa I
 || | | |
 acatctacgtattatgtcatcgctattaccatgggtatgcgggtttggcagttacaccaatggcggttagcggtttgac 320
 ttttagatgcataatcgtatgcataatggtaccactaocccaaaaaccgtatgtggtacccgcacctatgcctaaactg
 || | |
 246 268 275 290 318
 246 268
 247 268
 268
 269 272

Mae II Nla IV
 BsmA I Aha II Aat II Ban I
 || | |
 tcacggggatccaaagtctccacccattgcgtcaatggagttttttggcaccaaaaatcaacggactttccaaa 400
 agtgcctaaagggtcagagggtggtaactgcagttaccctcaacaaaaaccgtggtttagttgcctgaaaggtt
 || | |
 337 351 373
 351 373
 352

Hga I					Alu I
Hinc II					Sac I
					HgiA I
					Bsp1286 I
					Ban II
atgtcgtaataacccgccccgttgcacgcaaatggcggttaggcgttacgggtggaggtctatatacgagctcgttt	480				
tacagcattattggggggggcaactcgcttaccgcacatccgcacatgccaccctccagatatacgctcgagcaaa					
422		447	456		471
425					471
					471
					471
					471
					472
Sau96 I					
Gsu I					BstU I
Scrf I					Nci I
EcoR II					Sau3A I
BstN I	Fok I				Sec I
Sau3A I	Hga I				Msp I
Mbo I	Aha II				Mbo I
Dpn I	BsmA I				Bbv II
					Nla IV
					Bgl I
agtgaaccgtcagatcgctggagacgcccattccacgctgtttgacctccatagaagacacccggaccatccggatcc 560					
tcacttggcagtctagcggacacctctgcggtaggtgcacaaaactggaggatcttctgtggccctggctaggtcgagg					
493	502	526	534	543	555
493	504		534	544	556
493	504				
498	509			541	549
498				541	549
498				541	549
499				541	559
				541	560
				544	
Scrf I					
Nci I					
Msp I					
Hpa II					
Bcm I					
Hae III					
Gdi II					
Eag I					
Eae I					
Fnu48 I		Hinf I		Mae II	
		BstU I		Mae III	
goggccggaaacgggtcattggAACGGGATTCCCCGTGCCAAGAGTgacgtaagt	616				
cgccggcccttgcacgttaacccctgcgcctaaggggcacgggtctcactgcattca					
561		585	589	606	609
562					
562					
562					
563					
565					
565					
565					
565					
565					

Restriction Endonucleases site usage

Aat II	4	BspH I	-	EcoR V	-	Mnl I	3	Rsr II	-
Acc I	-	BspM I	-	Esp I	-	Msc I	-	Sac I	1
Afl II	-	BspM II	-	Fnu48 I	1	Mse I	-	Sac II	1
Afl III	-	Bsr I	1	Fok I	1	Msp I	2	Sal I	-
Aha II	5	BssH II	-	Fsp I	-	Nae I	-	Sau3A I	2

Alu I	1	BstB I	-	Gdi II	1	Nar I	-	Sau96 I	2
Alw I	1	BstE II	-	Gsu I	1	Nci I	2	Sca I	-
AlwN I	-	BstN I	1	Hae I	-	Nco I	1	Scrf I	3
Apa I	-	BstU I	2	Hae II	-	Nde I	1	Sec I	2
ApaL I	-	BstX I	-	Hae III	2	Nhe I	-	Sfan I	1
Ase I	-	BstY I	-	Hga I	2	Nla III	2	Sfi I	-
Asp718	-	Bsu36 I	-	HgiA I	1	Nla IV	2	Sma I	-
Ava I	-	Cfr10 I	-	HgiE II	-	Not I	-	SnaB I	1
Ava II	1	Cla I	-	Hha I	-	Nru I	-	Spe I	-
Avr II	-	Dde I	-	HinC II	2	Nsi I	-	Sph I	-
BamH I	-	Dpn I	2	HinD III	-	Nsp724 I	-	Spl I	-
Ban I	1	Dra I	-	Hinf I	2	NspB II	1	Ssp I	-
Ban II	1	Dra III	-	HinP I	-	NspB I	-	Stu I	-
Bba I	-	Drd I	-	Hpa I	-	Pac I	-	Sty I	1
Bbv I	-	Dsa I	2	Hpa II	2	PaeR7 I	-	Taq I	-
Bbv II	1	Eae I	1	Hph I	1	PflM I	-	Tth11 I	-
Bcl I	-	Eag I	1	Kpn I	-	Ple I	1	Tth11 II	-
Bcm I	2	Ear I	-	Mae I	1	Pml I	-	Xba I	-
Bgl I	2	Eco47 III	-	Mae II	7	PpuM I	-	Xca I	-
Bgl II	-	Eco57 I	-	Mae III	3	Pst I	-	Xho I	-
BsaA I	1	EcoN I	-	Mbo I	2	Pvu I	-	Xcm I	-
Bsm I	-	Eco0109 I	-	Mbo II	1	Pvu II	-	Xma I	-
BsmA I	2	EcoR I	-	Mlu I	-	Rsa I	5	Xma I	-
Bsp1286 I	1	EcoR II	1	Mme I	-				

Enzyme Site Use Site position (Fragment length) Fragment order

Alu I	ag/ct	1	1(471) 1	472(145) 2
Alw I	ggatc	4/5	1(548) 1	549(68) 2
Ava II	g/gwcc	1	1(543) 1	544(73) 2
Ban I	g/gyrc	1	1(372) 1	373(244) 2
Ban II	grgcy/c	1	1(470) 1	471(146) 2
Bbv II	gaagac	2/6	1(533) 1	534(83) 2
BsaA I	yac/gtr	1	1(245) 2	246(371) 1
Bsp1286 I	gdgch/c	1	1(470) 1	471(146) 2
Bsr I	actgg	1/-1	1(202) 2	203(414) 1
BstN I	cc/wgg	1	1(497) 1	498(119) 2
Eae I	y/ggccr	1	1(561) 1	562(55) 2
Eag I	c/ggccc	1	1(561) 1	562(55) 2
EcoR II	/ccwgg	1	1(497) 1	498(119) 2
Fnu4B I	gc/ngc	1	1(560) 1	561(56) 2
Fok I	ggatg	9/13	1(508) 1	509(108) 2
Gdi II	yggccg	-5/-1	1(561) 1	562(55) 2
Gsu I	ctggag	16/14	1(498) 1	499(118) 2
HgiA I	gwgcw/c	1	1(470) 1	471(146) 2
Bph I	ggtga	8/7	1(271) 2	272(345) 1
Mae I	c/tag	1	1(190) 2	191(426) 1
Mbo II	gaaga	8/7	1(533) 1	534(83) 2
Nco I	c/catgg	1	1(267) 2	268(349) 1
Nde I	ca/tatg	1	1(140) 2	141(476) 1
NspB II	cng/ckg	1	1(558) 1	559(58) 2
Ple I	gagtc	4/5	1(317) 1	318(299) 2
Sac I	gagct/c	1	1(470) 1	471(146) 2
Sac II	ccgc/gg	1	1(558) 1	559(58) 2
SfaN I	gcata	5/9	1(274) 2	275(342) 1
SnaB I	tac/gta	1	1(245) 2	246(371) 1
Sty I	c/cwwgg	1	1(267) 2	268(349) 1
Bcm I	ccs/gg	2	1(540) 1	541(24) 3
Bgl I	gcnnnnn/nggc	2	1(113) 2	114(441) 1
BsmA I	gtctc	1/5	1(336) 1	337(165) 2
BstU I	cg/cg	2	1(559) 1	560(25) 3
Dpn I	ga/tc	2	1(492) 1	493(56) 3
Dsa I	c/crygg	2	1(267) 2	268(291) 1
Bae III	gg/cc	2	1(183) 2	184(379) 1

Hga I	gacgc	5/10	2	1(424) 1	425(79) 3	504(113) 2		
Hinc II	gty/rac		2	1(25) 3	26(396) 1	422(195) 2		
Hinf I	g/antc		2	1(317) 1	318(271) 2	589(28) 3		
Hpa II	c/cgg		2	1(540) 1	541(24) 3	565(52) 2		
Mbo I	/gatc		2	1(492) 1	493(56) 3	549(68) 2		
Msp I	c/cgg		2	1(540) 1	541(24) 3	565(52) 2		
Nci I	cc/sgg		2	1(540) 1	541(24) 3	565(52) 2		
Nla III	catg/		2	1(208) 2	209(60) 3	269(348) 1		
Nla IV	ggm/ncc		2	1(372) 1	373(170) 2	543(74) 3		
Sau3A I	/gatc		2	1(492) 1	493(56) 3	549(68) 2		
Sau96 I	g/gmcc		2	1(183) 2	184(360) 1	544(73) 3		
Sec I	c/canng		2	1(267) 2	268(291) 1	559(58) 3		
Mae III	/gtac		3	1(38) 2	39(18) 3	57(549) 1	606(11) 4	
Mnl I	cctc	7/7	3	1(455) 1	456(70) 2	526(30) 4	556(61) 3	
Scrf I	cc/ngg		3	1(497) 1	498(43) 3	541(24) 4	565(52) 2	
Aat II	gacgt/c		4	1(28) 5	29(53) 4	82(83) 3	165(186) 2	
				351(266) 1				
Aha II	gr/cgyc		5	1(28) 6	29(53) 5	82(83) 4	165(186) 1	
				351(153) 2	504(113) 3			
Rsa I	gt/ac		5	1(125) 3	126(80) 4	206(33) 6	239(51) 5	
				290(157) 2	447(170) 1			
Mae II	a/cgt		7	1(29) 6	30(12) 7	42(41) 5	83(83) 3	
				166(81) 4	247(105) 2	352(257) 1	609(8) 8	

98 sites found

No Sites found for the following Restriction Endonucleases

Acc I	gt/mkac		Dra III	cacnnn/gtg	Nsp7524 I	r/catgy
Afl II	c/ttaag		Drd I	gacnnnn/nngtc	NspE I	rcatg/y
Afl III	a/crygt		Ear I	ctcttc 1/4	Pac I	ttaat/taa
AlwN I	cagnnn/ctg		Eco47 III	agc/gct	PaeR7 I	c/tcgag
Apa I	gggcc/c		Eco57 I	ctgaag 16/14	PflM I	ccannnn/ntgg
Apal I	g/tgcac		EcoN I	octnn/nnnagg	Pml I	cac/gtg
Ase I	at/taat		EcoO109 I	rg/gnccy	PpuM I	rg/gwccy
Asp718	g/gtacc		EcoR I	g/aattc	Pst I	ctgca/g
Ava I	c/ycgrg		EcoR V	gat/atac	Pvu I	cgat/cg
Avr II	c/ctagg		Esp I	gc/tnagc	Pvu II	cag/ctg
BamH I	g/gatcc		Fsp I	tgc/gca	Rsr II	cg/gwccg
Bba I	ggcgc/c		Hae I	wgg/ccw	Sal I	g/tcgac
Bbv I	gcagc	8/12	Hae II	rgcgc/y	Sca I	agt/act
Bcl I	t/gatca		HgiE II	accnnnnnnnggt	Sfi I	ggccnnnn/nggcc
Bgl II	a/gatct		Hha I	gcg/c	Sma I	ccc/ggg
Bsm I	gaatgc	1/-1	HinD III	a/agtt	Spe I	a/ctagt
BspH I	t/catga		HinP I	g/cgc	Sph I	gcatg/c
BspM I	acctgc	4/8	Hpa I	gtt/aac	Spl I	c/gtacg
BspM II	t/ccgga		Kpn I	ggtac/c	Ssp I	aat/att
BssH II	g/cgcgc		Mlu I	a/cgcgt	Stu I	agg/cct
BstB I	tt/cgaa		Mme I	tccrac 20/18	Taq I	t/cga
BstE II	g/gtnacc		Msc I	tgg/cca	Tth11 I	gacm/nngtc
BstX I	ccannnnn/ntgg		Mse I	t/taa	Tth11 I I	caarca 11/9
BstY I	r/gatcy		Nae I	gcc/ggc	Xba I	t/ctaga
Bsu36 I	cc/tnagg		Nar I	gg/cgoc	Xca I	gta/tac
Cfr10 I	r/ccggy		Nhe I	g/ctagc	Xba I	c/tcgag
Cla I	at/cgat		Not I	gc/ggcgc	Xcm I	ccannnnn/nnnntgg
Dde I	c/tnag		Nru I	tgc/cga	Xma I	c/ccggg
Dra I	ttt/aaa		Nsi I	atgca/t	Xmn I	gaann/nnttc

11/45

*** Aligned sequences:

C1 (1f): |>u 1>+++++ ad169hcmv (930 bases)+++++>u 930>|
C2 (1f): |>u 1>+++++ townehcmv (616 bases)+++++>u 616>|

*** Alignment of first sequence with all others displayed

*** Key:

UPPER CASE = aligned non-identical bases
lower case = unaligned bases
----- = aligned identical bases
..... = gapad169hcmv : AATCAATATTGCCATTAGCCATATTATTCAATTGGTTATATAGCATAAATCAATATTGGC
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : TATTGCCATTGCATACGTTGATCCATATCATAATATGTACATTATATTGGCTCATGT
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : CCAACATTACGCCATGTTGACATTGATTGACTAGTTATTAATAGTAATCAATTACG
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : GGGTCATTAGTCATAGCCATATGGAGTTCCGGTACATAACTACGGTAAATGGC
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : CCGCCTGGCTGACGGCCAACGACCCCCGGCCATGACGTCAATAATGACGTATGGTCCC
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : ATAGTAACGCCAATAGGGACTTCCATTGACGTCAATGGTGGAGTATTACGGTAAACT
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : GCCCACTTGGCAGTACATCAAGTGTATCATATGCCAAGTACGCCCCCTATTGACGTCAAT
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : GACGGTAAATGGCCGCTGGCATTATGCCAGTACATGACCTTATGGGACTTTCTACT
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : TGCGAGTACATCTACGTATTAGTCATCGCTATTACCATGGTATGCCGTTTGGCAGTAC
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : ATCAATGGCGTGGATAGCGTTGACTCACGGGATTCCAAGTCTCCACCCATTGAC
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : GTCAATGGAGTTGTTGGCACCAAAATCAACGGACTTCCAAAATGTCGAAACAC
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : TCCGCCCATGACGCAAATGGCGGTAGCGTACGGTGGAGGTCTATATAAGCAGA
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : GCTCGTTAGTGAACCGTCAGATCGCTGGAGACGCCATCCACGCTTTGACCTCCAT
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : AGAAGACACCGGGACCGATCCAGCCTCCGGCGGGAACGGTGCATTGGAACCGGATT
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : CCCCCGTGCCAAGAGTGACGTAAGTACCGCTATAGAGTCTATAGGCCACCCCTGGCT
townehcmv :ad169hcmv : TCTTATGCATGCTATACTGTTTGGCTTG
townehcmv :

LOCUS HS5IEE 930 bp ds-DNA VRL 15-SEP-1989
 DEFINITION Human cytomegalovirus major immediate-early gene, enhancer.
 ACCESSION K03104
 KEYWORDS major immediate-early gene.
 SOURCE RCMV strain AD169.
 ORGANISM Human cytomegalovirus
 Viridae; ds-DNA enveloped viruses; Herpesviridae;
 Betaherpesvirinae.
 REFERENCE 1 (bases 1 to 930)
 AUTHORS Boshart, M., Weber, F., Jahn, G., Dorsch-Haesler, K., Fleckenstein, B.
 and Schaffner, W.
 TITLE A very strong enhancer is located upstream of an immediate early
 gene of human cytomegalovirus
 JOURNAL Cell 41, 521-530 (1985)
 STANDARD full automatic
 REFERENCE 2 (sites)
 AUTHORS Zhang, X.-Y., Inamdar, N.M., Supakar, P.C., Wu, K., Ehrlich, M. and
 Ehrlich, K.C.
 TITLE three MDBP sites in the immediate-early enhancer-promoter region of
 human cytomegalovirus
 JOURNAL Virology 182, 865-869 (1991)
 STANDARD full automatic
 COMMENT Draft entry and printed copy of sequence in [1] were kindly
 provided by M. Boshart, 24-OCT-1985.

The sequence shown is a 930 bp segment of the *Pst*I m-fragment from *ECMV* strain AD169. The enhancer region of the *ECMV* gene was defined by selecting for fragments of *ECMV* DNA that would restore efficient growth of enhancerless *SV40*.

A possible splice donor signal is located at positions 856-864.

FEATURES	Location/Qualifiers
misc_signal	214..620 /note="HCMV IE enhancer region"
mRNA	738..>930 /note="HCMV IE mRNA"
BASE COUNT	233 a 228 c 211 g 258 t
ORIGIN	12 bp upstream of BallI site; .750 mu.
1	aatcaatatt ggccatttgc catattttc attggttata tagcataaat caatattggc
61	tattggccat tgcatacggtt gtatccatataataatgtt acatttatat tggctcatgt
121	ccaacattac cggcatgttg acattgatta ttgactagttt attaataatgtt atcaattacg
181	gggtcattag ttcatacgccc atatatggag ttccgcgttataacttac gtaaatggc
241	ccgcctggct gaccggccaa cgacccccgc ccattgacgtt caataatgac gtatgttccc
301	atagtaacgc caataaggac ttccatgtt cgtcaatggg tggagtattt acggtaaaact
361	gcccaacttgg cagtacatca agtgtatcatatgccaatgc cggcccttat tgacgtcaat
421	gacggtaaat ggccccctg gcattatgcc cagtagatgtt ctttatgggatcttctact
481	tggcagtaca tctacgtatt agtcatcgctt attaccatgg tgatgcgtt ttggcagtac
541	atcaatgggc gtggatagcg gtttgactca cggggatttc caagtctcca ccccatgtac
601	gtcaatggga gtttggggatggc acaccaaat caacgggact ttccaaaatgt tcgtaacaac
661	tccgccttcat tgacgcaaat gggcggttgg cgtgtacgggtt gggagggtcta tataagcaga
721	gctcggtttag tgaaccgtca gatcgcttgg agacgcccattt caccgttgc ttggcagtac
781	agaagacacacc gggaccgttgc cagccctccgc ggccggaaac ggtgcattgg aacgcggatt
841	ccccgtggcca agagtgcgtt aagtaccgttccat tataaggtctt ataggcccac ccccttggct
901	tcttatgttcat gctatactgtt ttttggcttg

13/45

LOCUS HS5MIE1 **616 bp ds-DNA** **VRL** **15-SEP-1989**
DEFINITION Human cytomegalovirus (Towne) major immediate-early (IE) gene, exon 1.
ACCESSION K01484 K01090
KEYWORDS major immediate-early gene.
SEGMENT 1 of 4
SOURCE Human cytomegalovirus (strain Towne) passed in primary human foreskin fibroblasts, DNA [1], clone pXEP22 [2].
ORGANISM Human cytomegalovirus
Viridae; ds-DNA enveloped viruses; Herpesviridae;
Betaherpesvirinae.
REFERENCE 1 (bases 460 to 616)
AUTHORS Stenberg, R.M., Thomsen, D.R. and Stinski, M.F.
TITLE Structural analysis of the major immediate early gene of human cytomegalovirus
JOURNAL J. Virol. 49, 190-199 (1984)
STANDARD full automatic
REFERENCE 2 (bases 1 to 490)
AUTHORS Thomsen, D.R., Stenberg, R.M., Goins, W.F. and Stinski, M.F.
TITLE Promoter-regulatory region of the major immediate early gene of human cytomegalovirus
JOURNAL Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 81, 659-663 (1984)
STANDARD full automatic
COMMENT IE region 1 gene is also known as the major IE gene.

Cytomegalovirus immediate-early gene expression is dominated in vivo by the expression of a single gene. At least three promoters influence transcription of the virus after infection. When a complete set of promoter-regulatory regions were present (IE regions 1, 2 and 3 or IE region 1 and an adenovirus major late promoter), transcription was qualitatively higher from IE region 1.

Based on these data, [1] proposes that the upstream sequence of the IE region 1 gene competes more efficiently for RNA polymerase II or other host cell proteins necessary for in vitro transcription.

Consensus CAAT and TATA boxes were found at positions 429-433 and 462-467, a polyadenylation signal was found at positions 2198-2203.

Fourteen direct repeats were found in the promoter-regulatory region (four 16-bp repeats, four 18-bp repeats, four 19-bp repeats and two 21-bp repeats).

Draft entry and clean copy sequences [1], [2] kindly provided by P.R. Witte and M.F. Stinski (10-FEB-1986).

FEATURES	Location/Qualifiers
prim_transcript	490..>616 /note="major IE mRNA"
intron	611..>616 /note="major IE mRNA intron A"
BASE COUNT	144 a 165 c 162 g 145 t
ORIGIN	28 bp upstream of HincII site; 0.752 map units.
	1 ggcgaccgccc cagcgacccc cgccccgttga cgtcaatagt gacgtatgtt cccatagtaa 61 cggcaatagg gactttccat tgacgtcaat gggtggagta ttacggtaa actgcccact 121 tggcagtaca tcaagtgtat catatgccaa gtcggccccc tattgacgtc aatgacggta 181 aatggcccgc ctagcattat gcccagtaca tgaccttacg ggagtttcct acttggcagt 241 acatctacgt attagtcatac gctattacca tggtgatgcg gttttggcag tacaccaatg 301 ggcgtggata gcggtttgac tcaacgggat ttccaagtct ccaccccaatt gacgtcaatg 361 ggagttgtt ttggcaccaa aatcaacggg actttccaaa atgtcgtaat aaccccgccc 421 cgttgcgcga aatggccggt aggcgtgtac ggtggaggt ctatatagca gagctcgaaa 481 agtgaaccgt cagatcgccct ggagacgcca tccacgctgt tttgacctcc atagaagaca 541 ccgggaccga tccagcctcc gcccgggaa acgggtcatt ggaacgcgga ttccccgtgc 601 caagagtgac gtaagt

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Hae III
 Msc I
 Hae I
 Eae I
 Ssp I
 ||
 aatcaatattggcattagccatatttattcattggttatatacgataaatcaatattggctattggcatttgcatacgtt 80
 ttagttataaccgtaatcggtataataagtaaccataatatcgatattgtataaccgataaccgtaacgtatgca
 5
 ||
 10
 10
 10
 11
 Rsa I
 ||
 gatatccatataatgtacatttatattggctcatgtccaaacattaccggcatgttgcattgatttgcattgtactgtt 160
 cataggtagtattatacatgtaaatataaccgactacaggttgcattggcggtacaactgtactataactgtatcaa
 99
 ||
 116
 120
 Nla III
 ||
 134
 137
 Nla III
 ||
 Mae I
 Spe I
 ||
 Bgl I
 Mae III
 Sau96 I
 Hae III
 ||
 Mse I
 Ase I
 ||
 attaatagtaatcaattacggggcattagttcatagcccataatatggagttccgcgttacataacttacggtaatggc 240
 taattatcattagttaatgcccagtaatcaagtatcggtatatacctcaaggcgaatgtattgaatggcatttacg
 161
 162
 161
 162
 ||
 214
 217
 BstU I
 ||
 238
 238
 239
 ||
 ScrF I
 EcoR II
 BstN I
 ||
 cccctggctgaccggccaaacgaccccccattgacgtcaataatgacgtatgttcccatgtaacgcataataggac 320
 ggcggaccgactgggggttgcgtggggggtaactgcgttattactgcataacaagggtatcattgcgttatccctg
 244
 244
 244
 244
 ||
 276
 276
 277
 Mae II
 Aha II
 Aat II
 ||
 tttccattgacgtcaatggggaggatttacgtaaactgcccacttggcgttacatcaagtgtatcatatgccaagta 400
 aaggtaactgcgttacccacctcataatgcccatttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgc
 329
 329
 330
 ||
 361
 373
 Bgl I
 Rsa I
 Nde I
 Rsa I
 ||
 388
 398
 ||
 ScrF I
 EcoR II
 BstN I
 ||
 Mae II
 Aha II
 Aat II
 ||
 cccccctattgacgtcaatgacgtaaatggccgcctggcattatgcccacttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgc 480
 ggggggataactgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgcgttgc
 412
 412
 413
 ||
 431
 431
 432
 Bgl I
 Sau96 I
 Hae III
 ||
 450
 453
 Rsa I
 Bsr I
 ||
 456
 437
 437
 437

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ScrF I
 Nci I
 Msp I
 Hpa II
 Bcn I
 Gdi II
 Eag I
 Pnu4H I
 BstU I
 Sec I
 Sac II
 NspB II
 Dsa I
 Mnl I Hae III
 Bgl I Eae I
 || |||||
 cagcctccggccgggaacgggtgcattggAACGCGGATCCCGTGCCTAAAGAGTACCGCCTATAGAGTCT
 gtcggaggcgccggcccttgccacgtAACCTGCGCTAAGGGCACGGTTCTACTGCATTATGGCGGATATCTCAGA
 || |||||
 803 810 833 854 863 875
 804 811 837 857 875
 807
 807
 807
 807
 808
 809
 810
 810
 813
 813
 813
 813
 813
 BstX I
 Sau96 I Sty I
 Hae III Sec I
 || |||||
 ataggcccaccccccTTGGCTTCTATGCATGCTATACTGTTTGGCTTG 930
 tatccgggtggggaaCCGAAGAACATACGTACGATATGACAAAAACCGAAC
 || |||||
 884 893 905
 884 893 907
 887 907
 907
 908

Restriction Endonucleases site usage

Aat II	4	BspH I	-	EcoR V	-	Mnl I	3	Rsr II	-
Acc I	-	BspM I	-	Esp I	-	Msc I	2	Sac I	1
Afl II	-	BspM II	-	Fnu48 I	1	Mse I	1	Sac II	1
Afl III	-	Bsr I	1	Fok I	1	Msp I	2	Sal I	-
Aha II	5	BsgB II	-	Fsp I	-	Nae I	-	Sau3A I	2
Alu I	1	BstB I	-	Gdi II	1	Nar I	-	Sau96 I	4
Alw I	1	BstE II	-	Gsu I	1	Nci I	2	Sca I	-
AlwN I	-	BstN I	3	Bae I	2	Nco I	1	ScrP I	5
Apa I	-	BstU I	3	Hae II	-	Nde I	1	Sec I	3
Apal I	-	BstX I	1	Hae III	6	Nhe I	-	SfaN I	1
Ase I	1	BstY I	-	Hga I	2	Nla III	5	Sfi I	-
Asp718	-	Bsu36 I	-	HgiA I	1	Nla IV	2	Sma I	-
Ava I	-	Cfr10 I	-	HgiE II	-	Not I	-	SnaB I	1
Ava II	1	Cla I	-	Hha I	-	Nru I	-	Spe I	1
Avr II	-	Dde I	-	HinC II	1	Nsi I	1	Sph I	1
BamH I	-	Dpn I	2	HinD III	-	Nsp7524 I	1	Spl I	-
Ban I	1	Dra I	-	Hinf I	3	NspB II	1	Ssp I	2

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Ban II	1	Dra III	-	HinP I	-	NspH I	1	Sau I	-
Bba I	-	Drd I	-	Hpa I	-	Pac I	-	Sty I	2
Bbv I	-	Dsa I	2	Hpa II	2	PaeR7 I	-	Taq I	-
Bbv II	1	Eae I	3	Hph I	1	PflM I	-	Tth11 I	-
Bcl I	-	Eag I	1	Kpn I	-	Ple I	2	Tth11 II	-
Bcm I	2	Ear I	-	Mae I	1	Pml I	-	Xba I	-
Bgl I	4	Eco47 III	-	Mae II	8	PpuM I	-	Xca I	-
Bgl II	-	Eco57 I	-	Mae III	4	Pst I	-	Xho I	-
BsaA I	1	EcoN I	-	Mbo I	2	Pvu I	-	Xcm I	-
Bsm I	-	EcoO109 I	-	Mbo II	1	Pvu II	-	Xma I	-
BsmA I	2	EcoR I	-	Mlu I	-	Rsa I	8	Xmn I	-
Bsp1286 I	1	EcoR II	3	Mme I	1				

Enzyme	Site	Use	Site position (Fragment length)		Fragment order
--------	------	-----	---------------------------------	--	----------------

Alu I	ag/ct	1	1(719)	1	720(211) 2
Alw I	ggatc	4/5	1(796)	1	797(134) 2
Ase I	at/taat	1	1(160)	2	161(770) 1
Ava II	g/gwcc	1	1(791)	1	792(139) 2
Ban I	g/gyrcc	1	1(619)	1	620(311) 2
Ban II	grgcy/c	1	1(718)	1	719(212) 2
Bbv II	gaagac	2/6	1(781)	1	782(149) 2
BsaA I	yac/gtr	1	1(492)	1	493(438) 2
Bsp1286 I	gdgch/c	1	1(718)	1	719(212) 2
Bsr I	actgg	1/-1	1(449)	2	450(481) 1
BstX I	ccannnnn/ntgg	1	1(886)	1	887(44) 2
Eag I	c/ggccg	1	1(809)	1	810(121) 2
Fnu4H I	gc/ngc	1	1(808)	1	809(122) 2
Fok I	ggatg	9/13	1(756)	1	757(174) 2
Gdi II	yggccg	-5/-1	1(809)	1	810(121) 2
Gsu I	ctggag	16/14	1(746)	1	747(184) 2
HgiA I	gwgcw/c	1	1(718)	1	719(212) 2
HinC II	gtt/rac	1	1(136)	2	137(794) 1
Hph I	ggtga	8/7	1(518)	1	519(412) 2
Mae I	c/tag	1	1(154)	2	155(776) 1
Mbo II	gaaga	8/7	1(781)	1	782(149) 2
Mme I	tccrac	20/18	1(119)	2	120(811) 1
Mse I	t/taa	1	1(161)	2	162(769) 1
Nco I	c/catgg	1	1(514)	1	515(416) 2
Nde I	ca/tatg	1	1(387)	2	388(543) 1
Nsi I	atgca/t	1	1(904)	1	905(26) 2
Nsp7524 I	r/catgy	1	1(906)	1	907(24) 2
NspB II	cng/ckg	1	1(806)	1	807(124) 2
NspB I	rcatg/y	1	1(906)	1	907(24) 2
Sac I	gagct/c	1	1(718)	1	719(212) 2
Sac II	ccgc/gg	1	1(806)	1	807(124) 2
SfaN I	gcatc	5/9	1(521)	1	522(409) 2
SnaB I	tac/gta	1	1(492)	1	493(438) 2
Spe I	a/ctagt	1	1(153)	2	154(777) 1
Sph I	gcatt/c	1	1(906)	1	907(24) 2
Bcn I	ccs/gg	2	1(788)	1	789(24) 3
BsmA I	gtctc	1/5	1(583)	1	584(166) 3
Dpn I	ga/tc	2	1(740)	1	741(56) 3
Dsa I	c/crygg	2	1(514)	1	515(292) 2
Hae I	wgg/ccw	2	1(9)	3	10(54) 2
Hga I	gacgc	5/10	1(671)	1	672(80) 3
Hpa II	c/cgg	2	1(788)	1	789(24) 3
Mbo I	/gatc	2	1(740)	1	741(56) 3
Msc I	tgg/cca	2	1(9)	3	10(54) 2
Msp I	c/cgg	2	1(788)	1	789(24) 3
Nci I	cc/sgg	2	1(788)	1	789(24) 3
Nla IV	ggg/ncc	2	1(619)	1	620(171) 2
Ple I	gagtc	4/5	1(564)	1	565(310) 2
Sau3A I	/gatc	2	1(740)	1	741(56) 3
Ssp I	aat/att	2	1(4)	3	5(47) 2
Sty I	c/cwwgg	2	1(514)	1	515(378) 2

BstN I	cc/wgg	3	1(243) 2	244(193) 3	437(309) 1	746(185) 4
BstU I	cg/cg	3	1(213) 2	214(594) 1	808(25) 4	833(98) 3
Zae I	y/ggccr	3	1(9) 4	10(54) 3	64(746) 1	810(121) 2
EcoR II	/ccwgg	3	1(243) 2	244(193) 3	437(309) 1	746(185) 4
Hinf I	g/antc	3	1(564) 1	565(272) 2	837(38) 4	875(56) 3
Mnl I	cctc	7/7	1(702) 1	703(71) 3	774(30) 4	804(127) 2
Sec I	c/cnngg	3	1(514) 1	515(292) 2	807(86) 3	893(38) 4
Aat II	gacgt/c	4	1(275) 2	276(53) 5	329(83) 4	412(186) 3
		598(333) 1				
Bgl I	gccnnnn/nggc	4	1(238) 2	239(122) 4	361(71) 5	432(371) 1
		803(128) 3				
Hae III	/gttnac	4	1(216) 2	217(87) 4	304(349) 1	653(201) 3
		854(77) 5				
Sau96 I	g/gncc	4	1(237) 2	238(193) 3	431(361) 1	792(92) 4
		884(47) 5				
Aha II	gr/cgyc	5	1(275) 1	276(53) 6	329(83) 5	412(186) 2
		598(154) 4	752(179) 3			
Nla III	catg/	5	1(115) 3	116(18) 6	134(322) 2	456(60) 4
		516(392) 1	908(23) 5			
Scrf I	cc/ngg	5	1(243) 2	244(193) 3	437(309) 1	746(43) 5
		789(24) 6	813(118) 4			
Hae III	gg/cc	6	1(10) 7	11(54) 5	65(173) 3	238(493) 2
		431(380) 1	811(73) 4	884(47) 6		
Hae II	a/cgt	8	1(75) 6	76(201) 2	277(12) 9	289(41) 8
		330(83) 4	413(81) 5	494(105) 3	599(258) 1	
		857(74) 7				
Rsa I	gt/ac	8	1(98) 4	99(274) 1	373(25) 9	398(55) 6
		453(33) 8	486(51) 7	537(157) 3	694(169) 2	
		863(68) 5				

141 sites found

No Sites found for the following Restriction Endonucleases

Acc I	gt/mkac	Dde I	c/ttag	Nru I	tcg/cga
Afl II	c/ttaag	Dra I	ttt/aaa	Pac I	ttaat/taa
Afl III	a/crypt	Dra III	cacnnnn/gtg	PaeR7 I	c/tcgag
AlwN I	cagnnn/ctg	Drd I	gacnnnn/ngtgc	PfIM I	ccannnn/ntgg
Apa I	gggcc/c	Ear I	cttttc 1/4	Pml I	cac/gtg
Apal I	g/tgcac	Eco47 III	agc/gct	PpuM I	rg/gwccy
Asp718	g/gtacc	Eco57 I	ctgaag 16/14	Pst I	ctgca/g
Ava I	c/ycgrg	EcoN I	octnn/nnnagg	Pvu I	cgat/cg
Avr II	c/ctagg	EcoO109 I	rg/gnccy	Pvu II	cag/ctg
BamH I	g/gatcc	EcoR I	g/aattc	Rsr II	cg/gwccg
Bbe I	ggcgc/c	EcoR V	gat/atc	Sal I	g/tcgac
Bbv I	gcagc	Esp I	gc/tnagc	Sca I	agt/act
Bcl I	t/gatca	Fsp I	tgc/gca	Sfi I	ggccnnnn/nggcc
Bgl II	a/gatct	Hae II	rgcgc/y	Sma I	ccc/ggg
Bsm I	gaatgc	HgiE II	accnnnnnnngt	Spl I	c/gtacg
BspB I	t/catga	Hha I	gcg/c	Stu I	agg/cct
BspM I	acctgc	HinD III	a/agctt	Taq I	t/cga
BspM II	t/ccgga	HinP I	g/cgc	Tth111 I	gacn/ngtgc
BssH II	g/cgcgc	Hpa I	gtt/aac	Tth111 II	caarca 11/9
BstB I	tt/cgaa	Kpn I	ggta/c	Xba I	t/ctaga
BstE II	g/gtnacc	Mlu I	a/cgcgt	Xba I	gta/tac
BstY I	r/gatcy	Nae I	gcc/ggc	Xba I	c/tcgag
Bsu36 I	cc/ttnagg	Nar I	gg/cgcc	Xcm I	ccannnnnn/nnnntgg
Cfr10 I	r/cgggy	Nhe I	g/ctagc	Xma I	c/ccggg
Cla I	at/cgat	Not I	gc/gccgc	Xma I	gaann/nnttc

INTERNALIZATION OF LIPID DNA COMPLEXES IN CV-1 CELLS

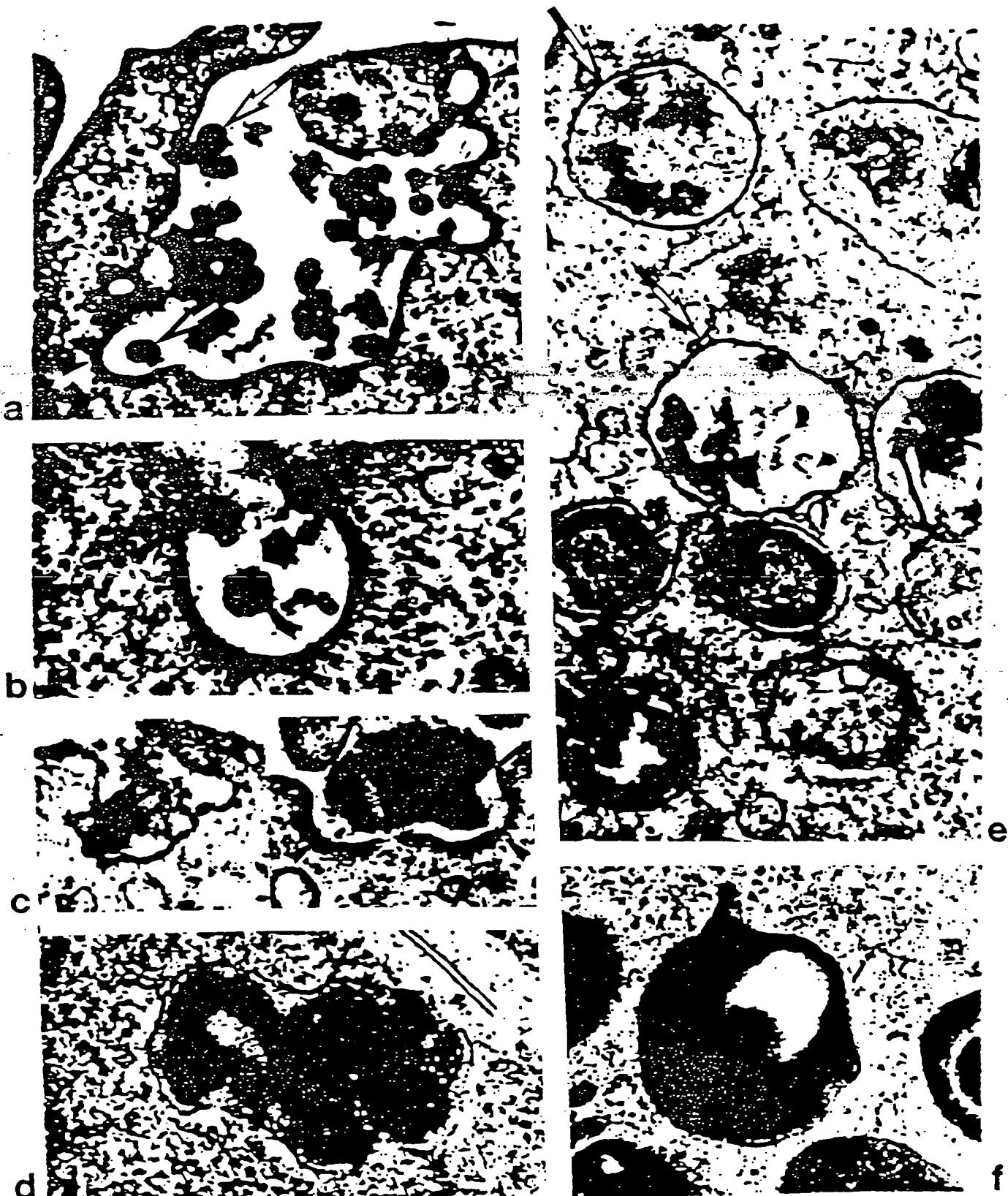


FIGURE 7



FIGURE 8A

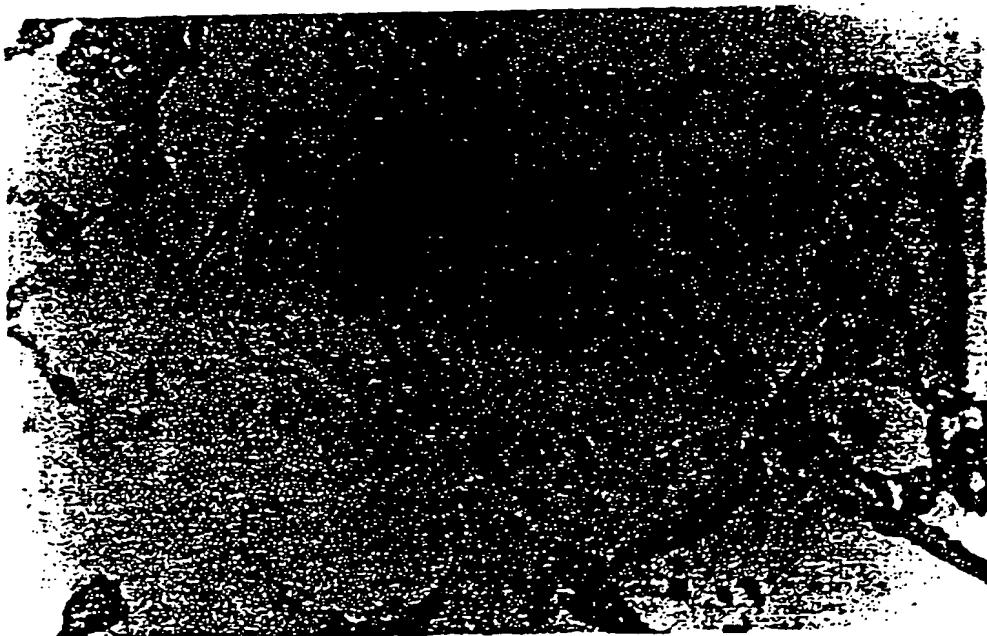


FIGURE 8B

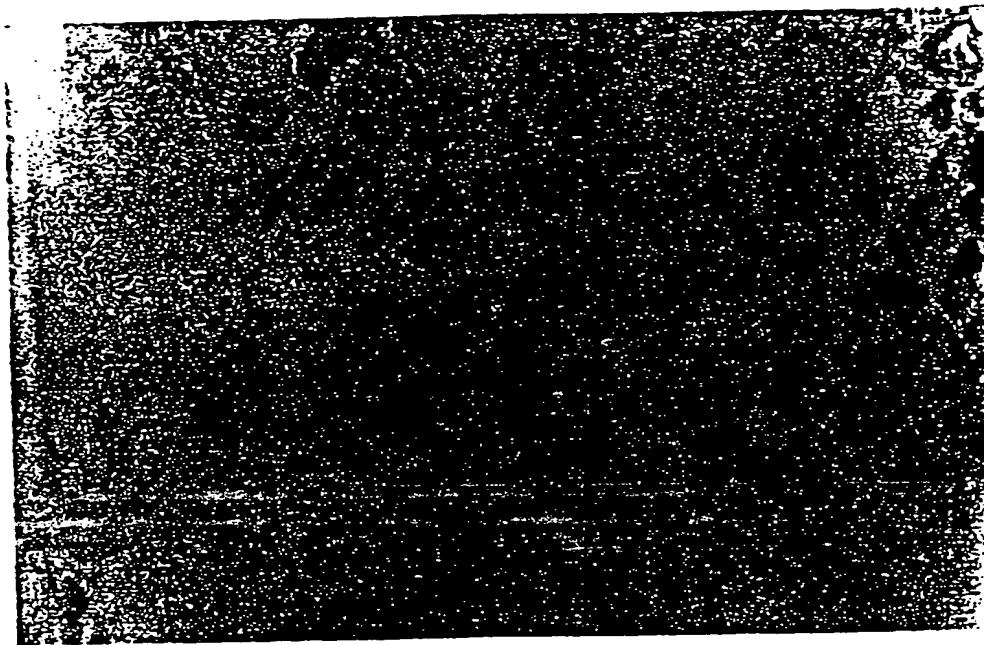


FIGURE 8C

Control

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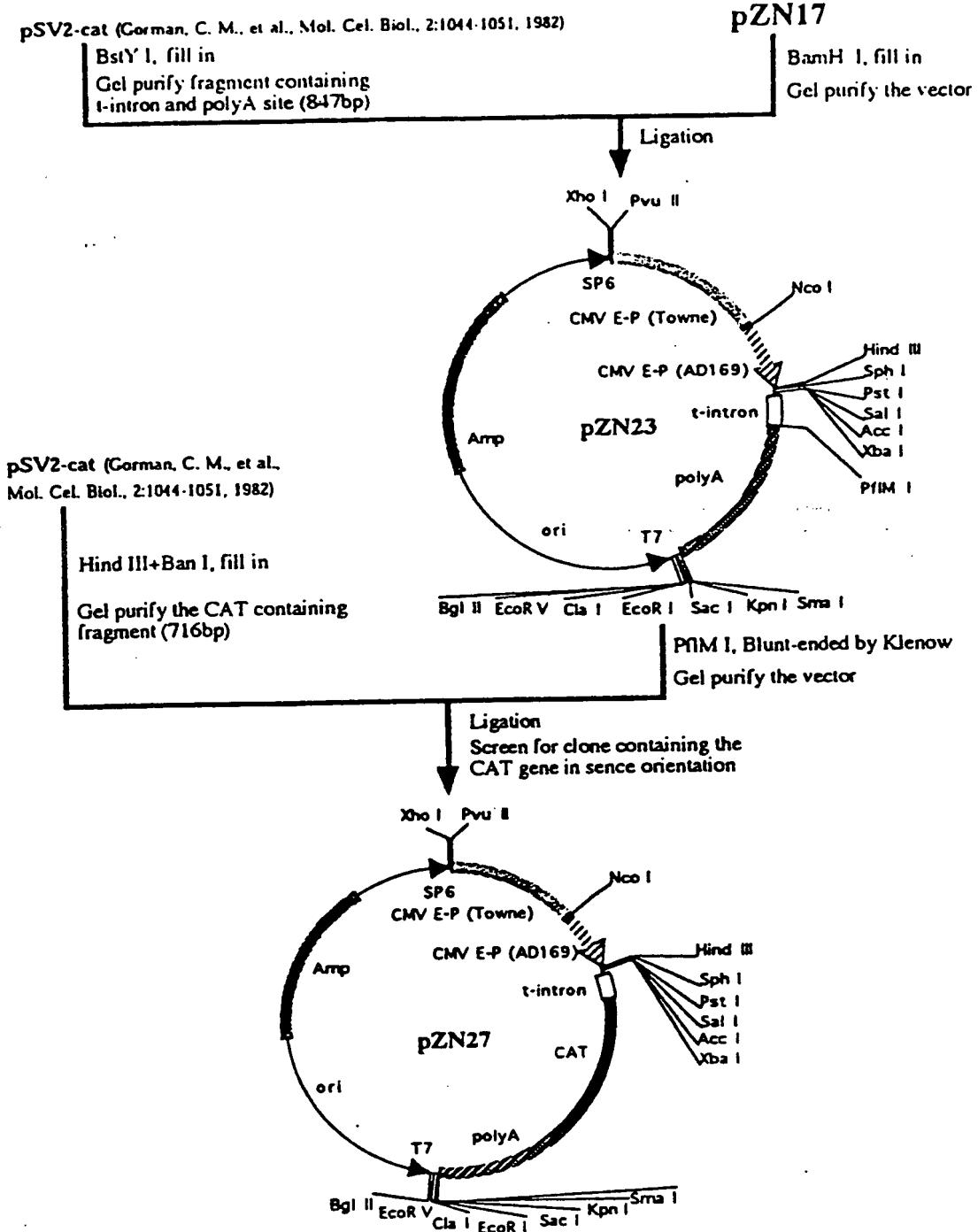
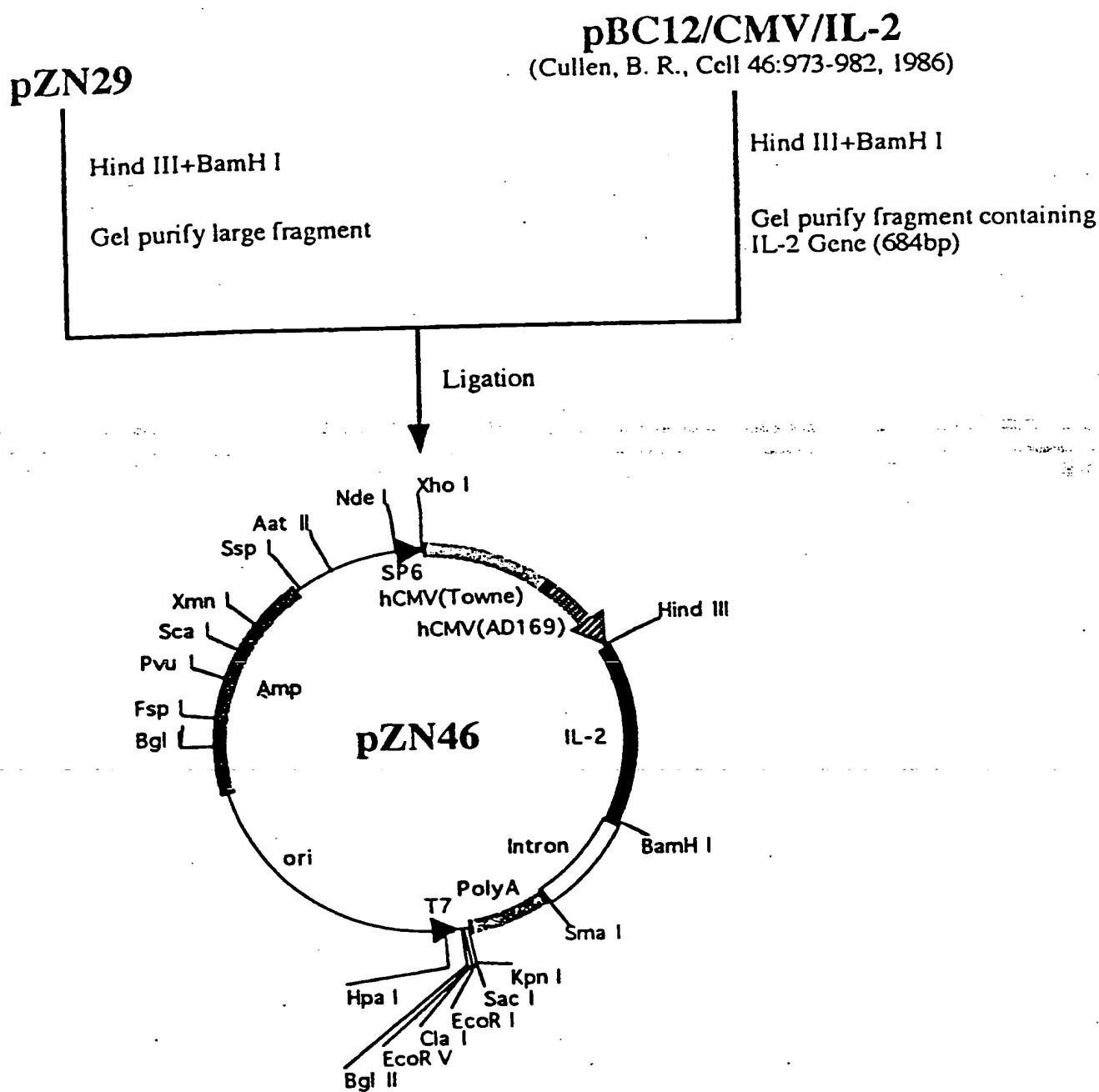


Figure 9



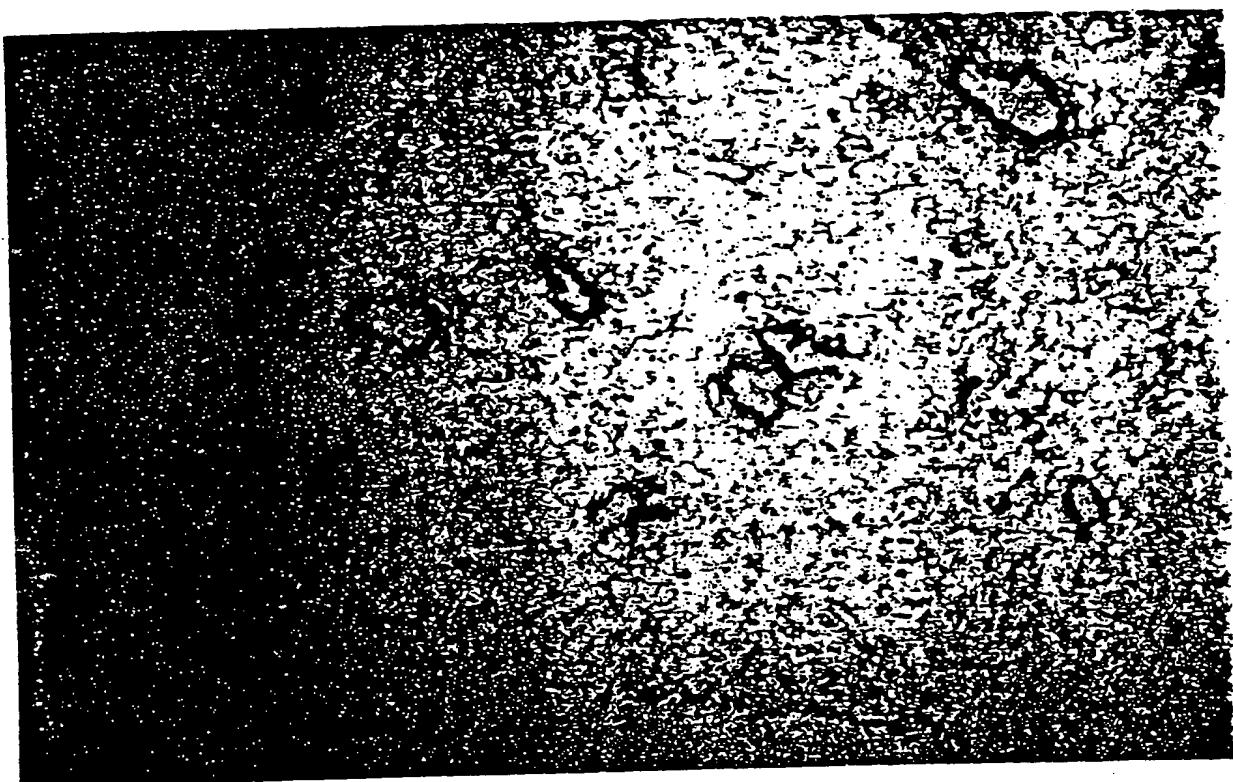


FIGURE 12A

50X



FIGURE 12B

Control 50X

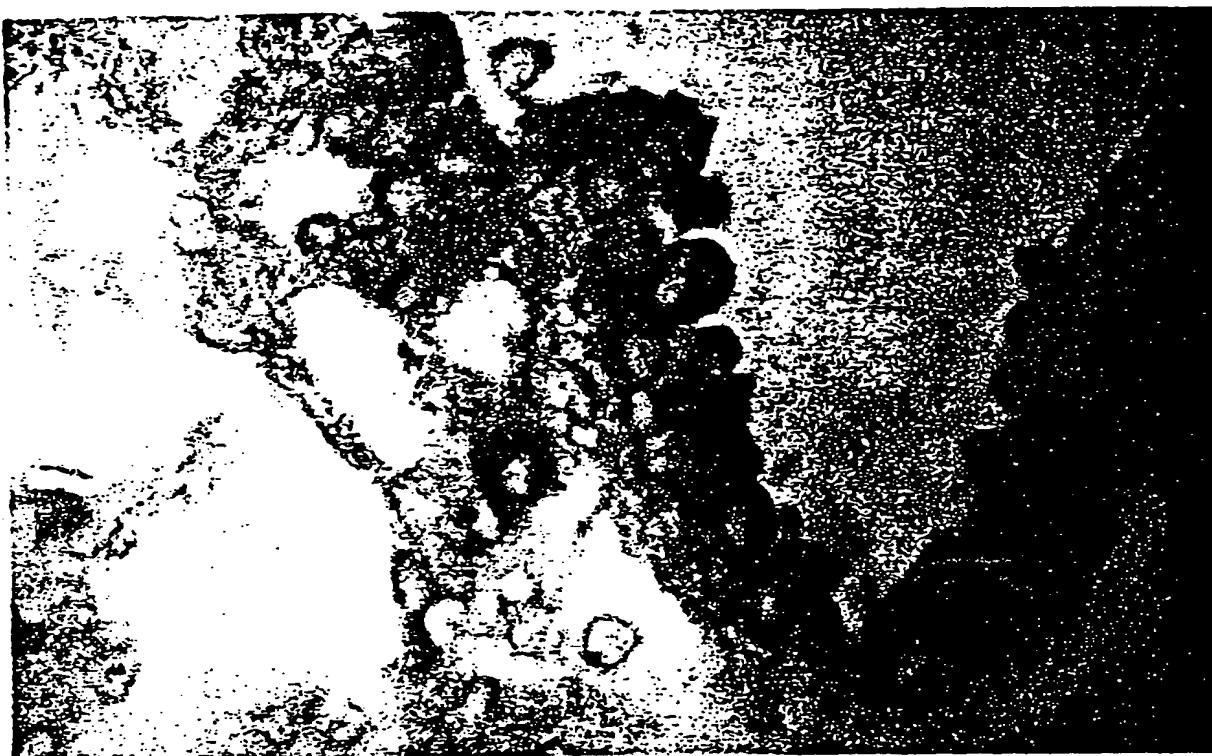
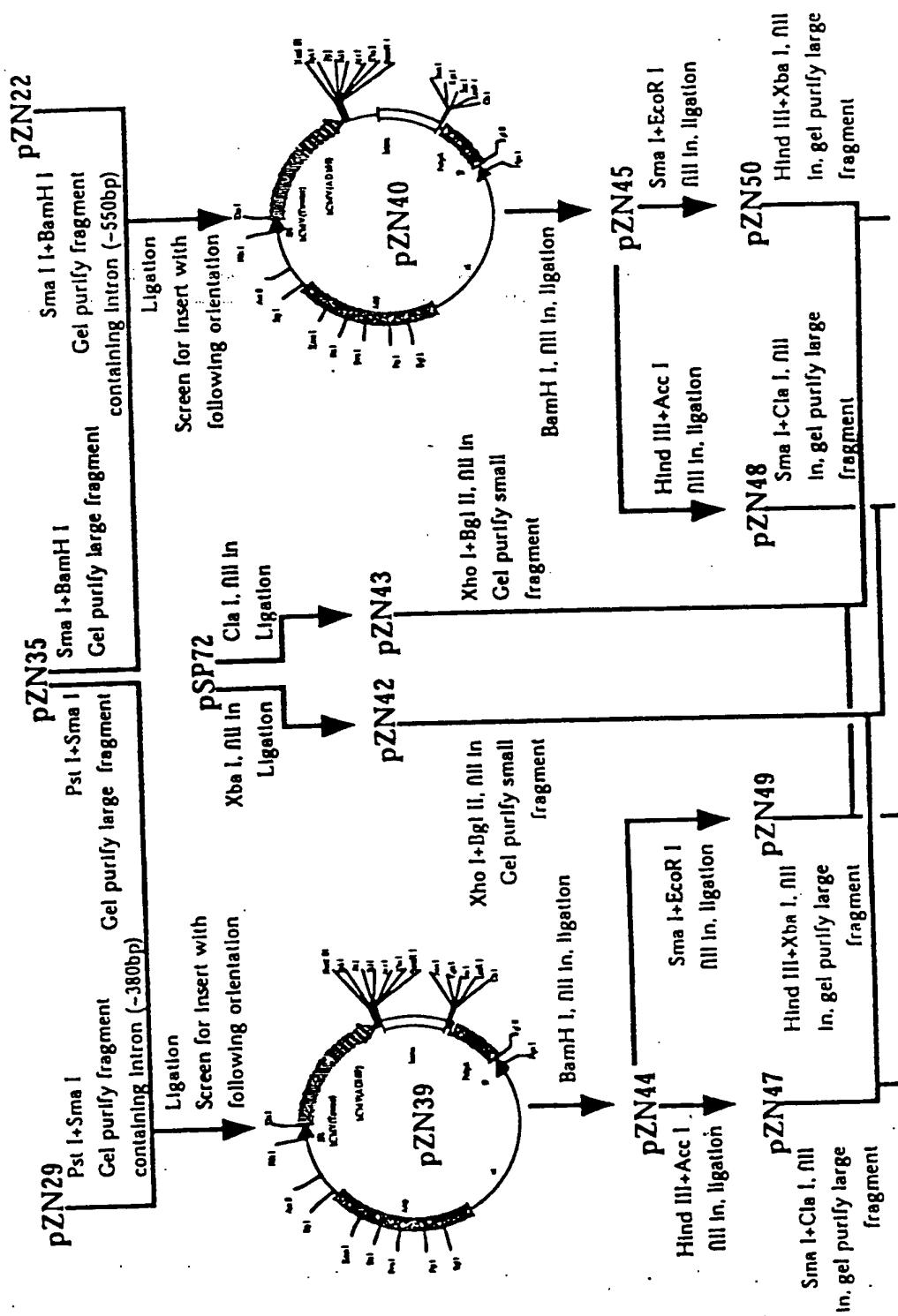


FIGURE 12E

250X



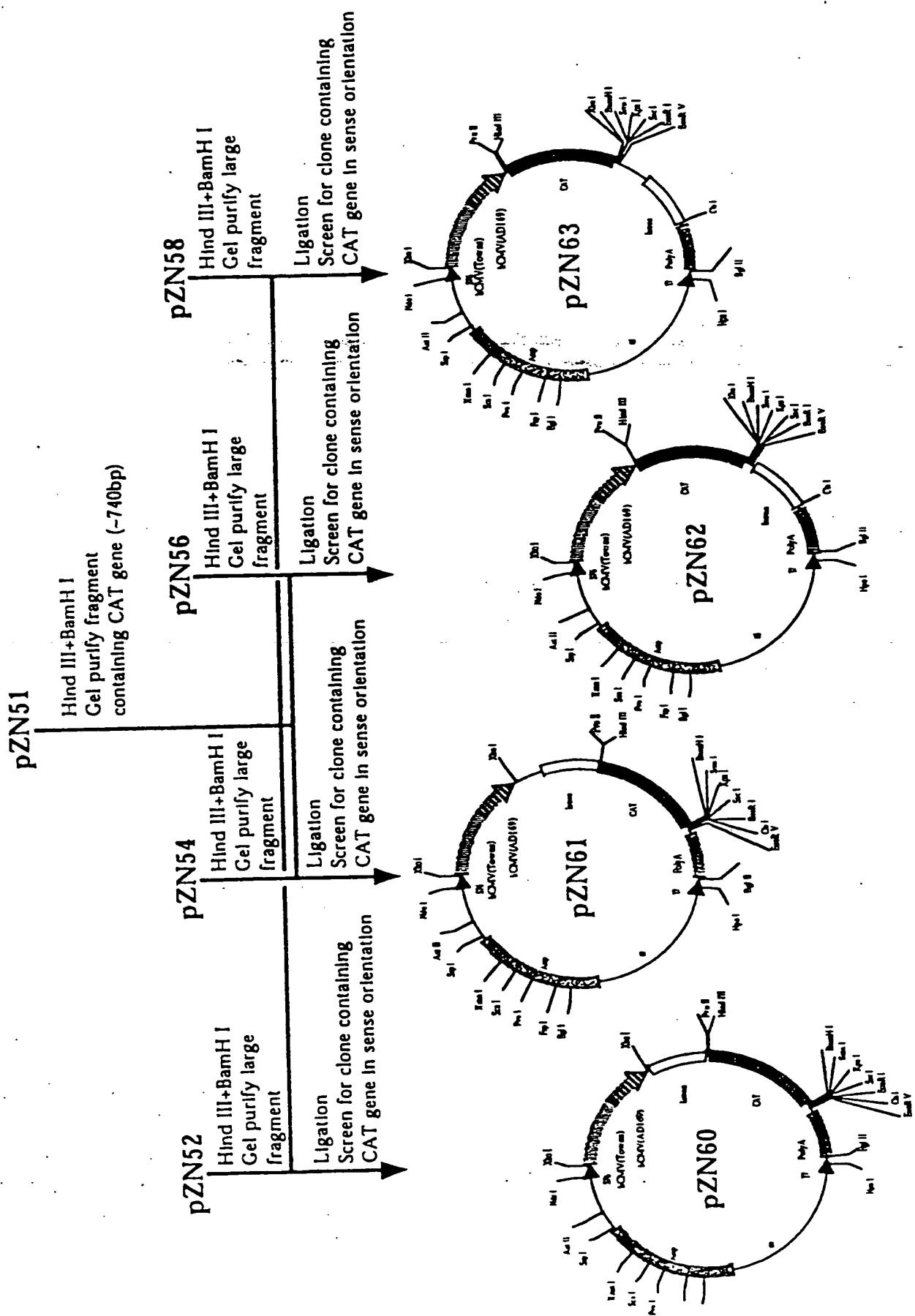


Figure 14c

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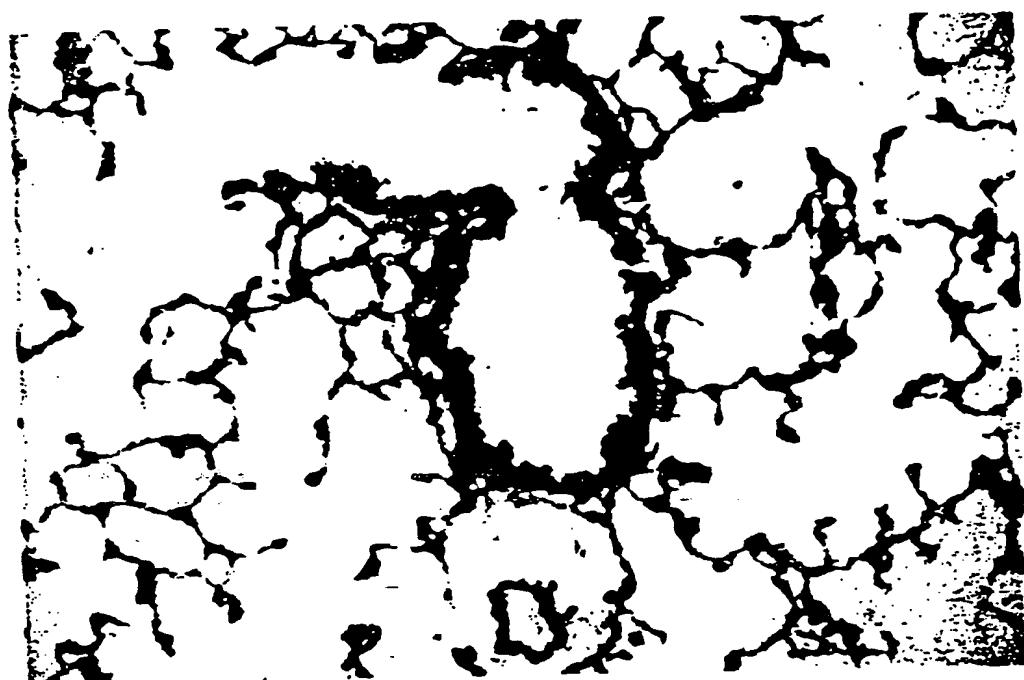


FIGURE 16A



FIGURE 16B



FIGURE 16D



FIGURE 16E

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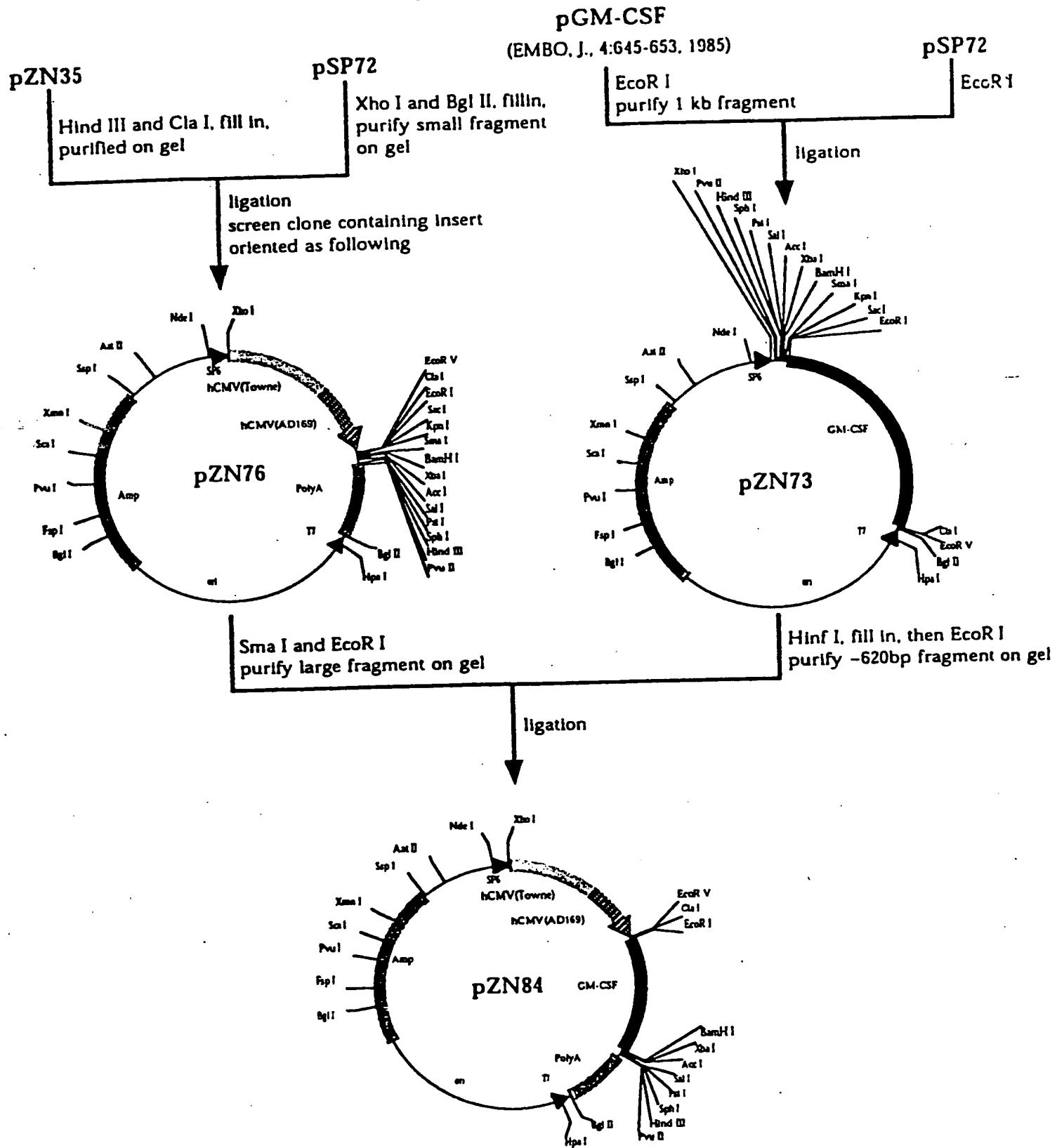


Figure 17

CAT EXPRESSION WITH pZN27 ALONE

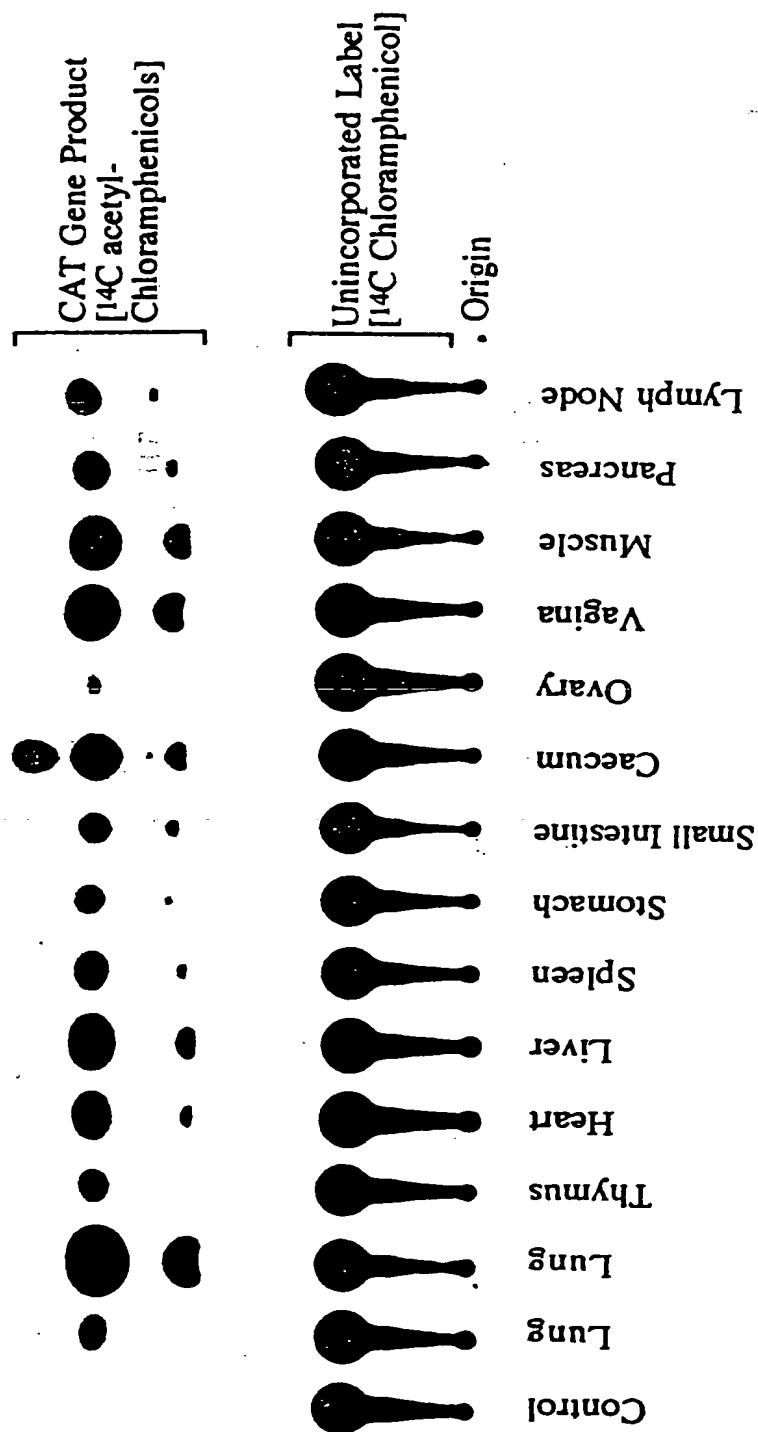


FIGURE 19A

CAT EXPRESSION AFTER INJECTION OF PLASMID INTO MOUSE BRAIN RIGHT VENTRICLES

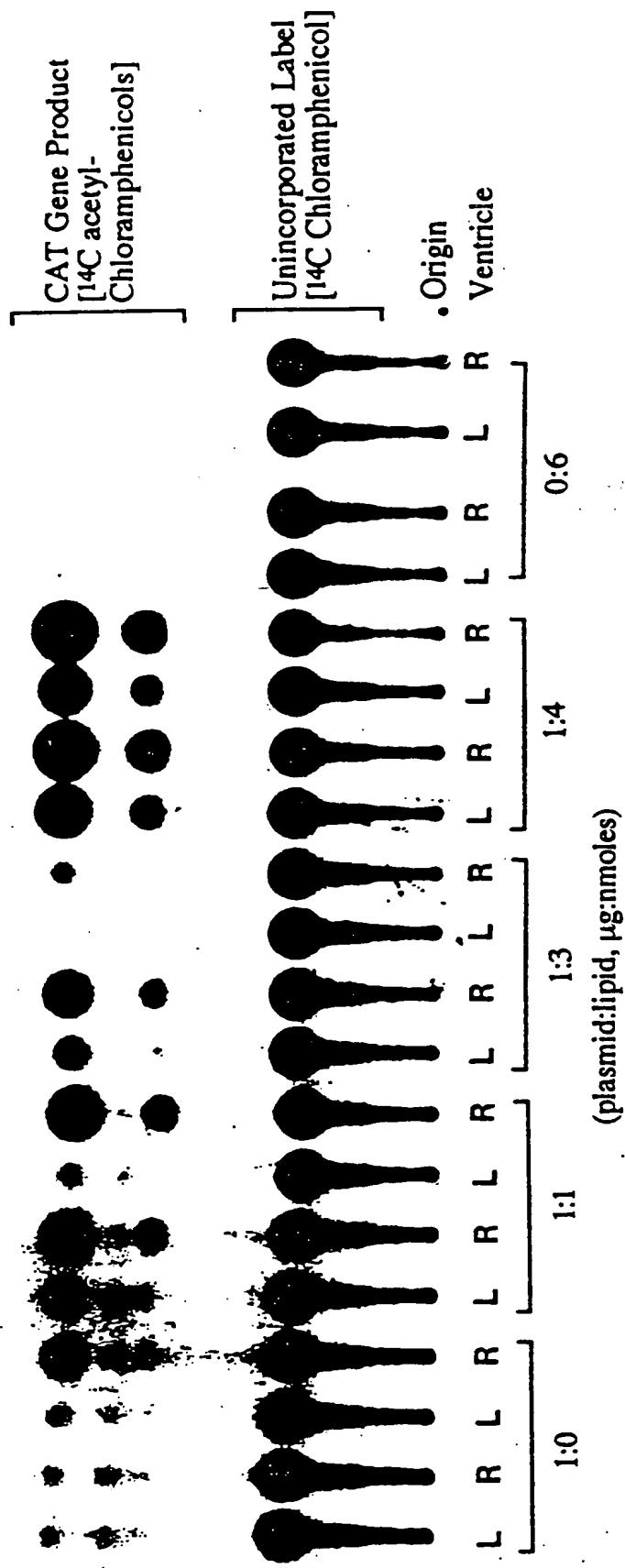


FIGURE 20

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IMMUNOREACTIVE GM-CSF
(Expressed relative to pre-inoculation value)

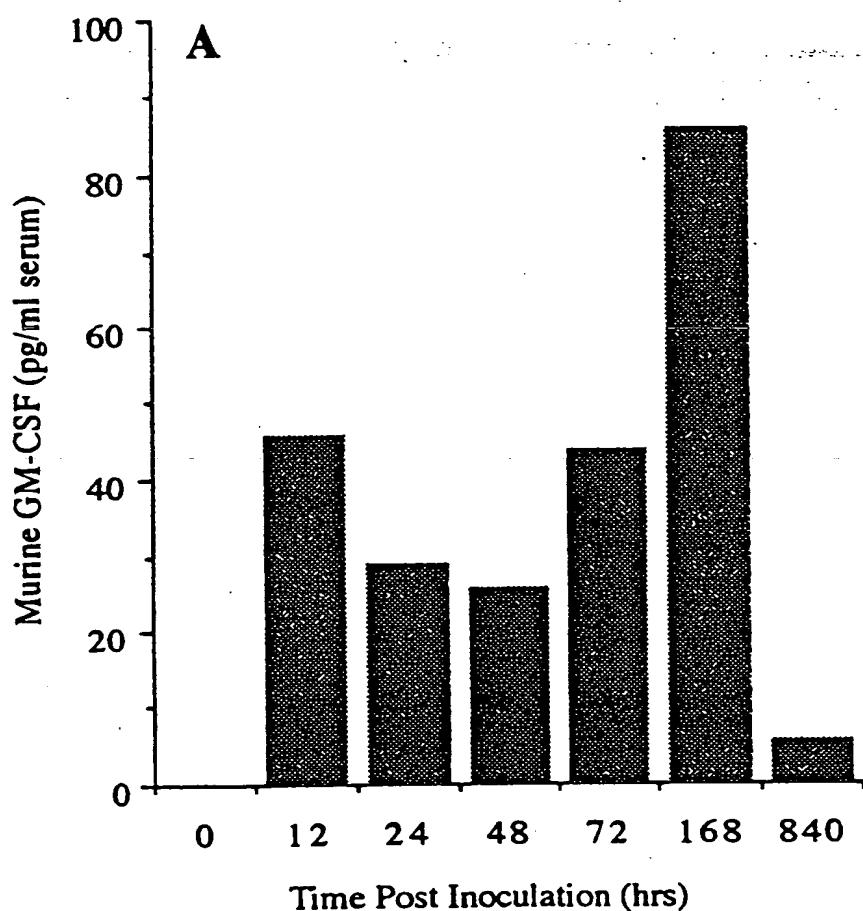


FIGURE 22

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 93/05369

International Application No

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all)⁶

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC

Int.C1. 5 C12N15/00; C12N15/88;	A61K48/00; C12N15/11;	A01K67/027; C12N15/26;	C12N15/12 C12N15/27
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II. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum Documentation Searched⁷

Classification System	Classification Symbols		
Int.C1. 5	A61K ;	A01K ;	C07K ; C12N

Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation
to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched⁸III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT⁹

Category ¹⁰	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
E	WO,A,9 312 240 (REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA) 24 June 1993 see the whole document ---	1-7, 10-16
X	WO,A,9 102 796 (HSC RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION) 7 March 1991 see page 108, line 4 - line 9; claims 1,2,9,19-22,2627,90-97 ---	1,6,10, 11,13-16
X	WO,A,9 106 309 (VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY) 16 May 1991 see the whole document ---	1,10-17
X	WO,A,9 205 252 (HSC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) 2 April 1992 see claims; figure 14 ---	1,6 -/-

¹⁰ Special categories of cited documents :¹⁰

- ^{"A"} document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- ^{"E"} earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- ^{"L"} document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- ^{"O"} document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- ^{"P"} document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

^{"T"} later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

^{"X"} document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step

^{"Y"} document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

^{"&"} document member of the same patent family

IV. CERTIFICATION

Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search 12 OCTOBER 1993	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report 05 -11- 1993
International Searching Authority EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE	Signature of Authorized Officer CHAMBONNET F.J.

**ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

US 9305369
SA 76059

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information. 12/10/93

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WO-A-9115501	17-10-91	None		